

# Negroes Warned not to Practice Birth Control

Washington, D. C.

"Negroes cannot afford to practice birth control, lest they commit racial suicide," declares Dr. Julian H. Lewis, noted University of Chicago Pathologist and author of "The Biology of the Negro" writing in a controversial article in the May issue of Negro Digest.

"Until the present high Negro death rate is lowered to at least that of the general population, Negroes cannot afford birth control. It would be race suicide for Negroes to adopt its extensive practice," Dr. Lewis said.

He pointed out census figures to show that 139 Negroes out of every 10,000 die annually compared to 104 out of every 10,000 whites. Despite the high death rate, the Negro population has tripled since emancipation due to the high birth rate.

The noted pathologist further points out that there were 217 births for every 10,000 Negroes compared to only 175 for every 10,000 whites.

The high birth rate is explained by the fact that there are more Negro women than Negro men, that the women give birth at earlier ages than whites and that the number of Negro twins and triplets is higher than whites.

Dr. Lewis concludes stating that "the integrity of the present proportion of Negroes in the general population depends on the maintenance of their high birth rate."

While there is room for improvement in the quality of the Negro race, which is also true of every other race, methods must be sought to accomplish this without involving the risk of its greatest factor of safety—its high birth rate."

## COST OF LIVING CONFERENCE AT DILLARD MAY 7

New Orleans, La.

Plans for the Cost of Living Conference on May 7 at Dillard University from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. are just about completed, according to Mr. James E. Gayle Sr., general chairman of the conference.

Mr. Ernest E. Neal of the regional OPA office at Dallas will be the main speaker. Mr. Neal is in charge of the Negro work in the OPA for six states: Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Texas, Missouri and Louisiana, and has distinguished himself greatly in his work.

A representative from Mr. Bowles' office at Washington, D. C., is also expected to be here. The whole Negro community has rallied around the OPA office, 1809 Dryades Street, of which Mrs. Irene C. Edmonds is in charge, to make the conference a success.

The need for such a conference, which is concerned with keeping down living costs, has long been felt in New Orleans.

One of the interesting features of the conference is an exhibition on conservation, point-savers and money-savers arranged under the direction of Mrs. Wesley N. Segre, director of homemaking at Dillard University, and in cooperation with Miss Overon of Xavier University, Miss Edna St. Cyr of Booker T. Washington School and Mrs. Beryl Sheldon of the Isabella Hume Community Center.

The program for the day is as follows:

9 A. M.—Assembly, Mr. Neal, speaker.

10 A. M.—10:45 A. M.—Rationing Panel, Mrs. E. T. M. Devore, chairman.

10:45 A. M.—12 Noon—Price Panel, Mr. George McKenna, chairman.

12 Noon—1:30 P. M.—Lunch and Exhibitions. Mrs. Wesley N. Segre

## Discussion of Family

chairman  
1:30 P. M.—3 P. M.—Rent Panel, Mr. George Washington, chairman.  
3 P. M.—4 P. M.—Summary and Presentation of play, "To Do or Not to Do," by the Paul Robeson Children's Theatre of Dillard University.

Every one is invited. Lunch will be available on the campus. The conference is sponsored jointly by Dillard University, the OPA office and the community.

## Negroes Can't Afford Birth Control—Dr. Lewis

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## Living Today

By ARLIE B. DAVIDSON

### Dangers in Mate Selection

The venture of marriage represents a major crisis in every one's life. Although a successful marriage depends upon a continuous creative relationship between the married partners, much depends upon the type of partner selected. That in itself often holds the foundation for either success or failure in the following years of marital life.

It is highly important, therefore, that certain common dangers be recognized in the process of mate selection. Among them the following should receive special attention:

1. Too narrow range of selection. Marriage is so important in personality development and happy and creative functioning through adulthood that it is extremely essential to use great care in making the decision on the particular person to be your life companion. It is wise, therefore, to extend your range of selection as much as you reasonably can under the circumstances of your life. A narrow range of selection means that you must settle upon your future mate among a small number of possibilities, among whom you may not find any one who is the proper type for your ideals, ambitions, interests, training, or other qualities which will have a significant bearing upon permanent marital happiness.

It is likely, under such circumstances, that you will make your selection too early, before you have had sufficient time to cast about for someone better suited for you. You can with effort "fall in love" with most any type of person if you do not have others from which to choose. It is your obligation, therefore, to make your acquaintances as broad and extensive as possible in order to increase your potential friendships among which you could make a good choice.

2. Concentration upon one quality. It may easily happen that you choose your mate on the basis of one strong quality, such as physical appearance, intellectual superiority, or some artistic talent, which appeals to you strongly. In your attention to that one quality you may overlook other very important factors which ought to receive equally or greater attention. Many studies have proved that your

chance of marital success is greater if your mate possesses many reasonably desirable traits rather than one superior trait and a pronounced lack in other respects.

3. Differences. Opposites may attract each other to some extent, but such is a poor basis upon which to build a successful marriage. Common interests, common tastes, a common religion, the same nationality, likenesses—these are much more hopeful signs of genuine marital companionship than differences. You may be in love with the person who is different from you, but love based on a very different set of life patterns is usually insufficient to overcome the obstacles of pronounced differences in basic personality traits.

4. Surface attraction. You may be led on unwisely into the selection of your marital mate largely because of such shallow appeals as money, position, social or economic or political status, physical beauty, or certain captivating ways of a person. These may be of interest, and often helpful, but they are entirely inadequate foundations for permanent marital companionship. For example, a prominent physical culture specialist of this country met the perfect physical specimen, a woman, in England, many years ago, and married her. When he divorced her about two years ago, he indicated that a bad temper and other undesirable personality qualities were too powerful to overcome in spite of her physique.

5. Shallow or brief acquaintance. This is a common danger that is disregarded in time of war when conditions are favorable for hasty marriages, based on extremely limited understanding. Moreover, such shallow understanding gives many chances for deception in courtship, particularly when the young man is far away from home and the girl



Davidson



NEW YORK, N. Y.  
TIMES

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JUN 7 - 1945

### Economic Opportunity Held Needed

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

Your recent editorial "The Problem of Harlem" is an epic in the field of American journalism involving the Negro and his long struggle for those elemental rights so freely exercised by all other Americans.

When you say, "We need a far more intensive economic study of the conditions in Harlem than any that has yet been made" you give expression to a fundamental truth long recognized by the Negro Labor Committee, by the ILGWU and by the other progressive unions, both AFL and CIO, affiliated with us.

The basis of the Negro problem is primarily economic, revolving around the questions of work opportunity with decent pay and job security, and as long as our friends continue to confine their interests to other phases of the problem without recognizing the economics of it their efforts will produce "palliatives," as your editorial points out. The hourly economic lynching of Negroes in Harlem as in all other segregated areas is far more appalling and un-Christlike than all the physical lynchings that now occasionally occur in the South.

As a member of the New York City Housing Authority and long a resident of Harlem I know of the splendid contribution being made by this agency toward easing the housing situation in Harlem and throughout the other unhealthy and slum-ridden areas in this city; but even these efforts can produce only "palliatives" and not solutions.

As the Negro continues to strengthen

his economic life-line through organized action as workers, and as he more clearly recognizes the fact that the pathway to our final emancipation is the pathway of organized labor, we will then be definitely on the way to a solution of our problem.

FRANK R. CROSSWAITH, Chairman.  
New York, June 4, 1945.



# The WORRY CLINIC

By DR. GEORGE W. CRANE

Atlanta, Ga.

(There is a marked difference between the psychology of women and that of men. If you husbands want to know whether you rate tops or are only also-rans, try the "snore" test described today. That is woman's criterion of whether you are pig or perfect.) 5-10-45

Case F-264: Paul G., aged 23, is a former student of mine, now a lieutenant in the U. S. Navy.

"I'm to be married in a few weeks," he informed me with a happy grin as he entered the office.

"My girl is wonderful and I want to keep her ideally happy all her life.

"Back in class at Northwestern you used to tell us about the basic hungers or instincts of mankind, and how to motivate people most successfully.

"How does that apply right now to my desire for making my wife think I am wonderful till our golden wedding day?"

## DIAGNOSIS 5-10-45

There are five fundamental hungers of a wife that must be satisfied if you are going to make her perfectly happy.

She may remain married to you even if you don't gratify all of these five, for some women will stick to their husbands when the latter's batting average is only .200 to .400 on this test.

Woman's first instinct or basic appetite is self-preservation, for that is true of all animals, human and infra-human.

This means she craves food and water, clothing and shelter—in short, economic security. Can you bring home the bacon and keep the bill collectors from hounding your door?

The second basic instinct is love, including poetry and honeyed phrases, candy and flowers, romantic dates, kisses and proper sexual adjustment.

## WOMAN'S IDEA OF LOVE

A woman's concept of love is much different from a man's. The male wants maybe 50 per cent to 75 per cent of his love to be below the neck, whereas a woman's brain is her chief sexual organ.

She likes coquetry and finesse, complimentary phrases and evidences of gallantry. She wants you to be devoted to her even if sex were ruled out entirely.

"Do you love ME or only what you can get out of me?" is the chronic question lurking in the margin of every normal woman's mind. 5-10-45

So, she is especially alert to a man's attitude or comments after marital relations. If he snores and is totally inattentive, she is downcast, feeling he doesn't love HER. A smart husband, regardless of his fatigue, will not start snoring until he thus satisfies her lurking question.

A woman's third hunger is maternal. She wants to care for some defenseless creatures, such as babies. In lieu of them, dogs and cats are partially effective, or she may sublimate this hunger in her work for hospitals, Red Cross, and missionary activity of the church.

## WOMAN'S FIVE HUNGERS

Women also have a gregarious hunger. They want to be well thought of among their neighbors, so they crave social life, parties or amusement in groups. They are usually not fond of hermit recreations like fishing or hunting.

Finally, there seems to be an inherent spiritual hunger in the female that craves expression in religion, music, art and cultural things. 5-10-45

Women are obviously the backbone of all churches and have been the chief custodians of culture throughout history. To permit a woman to attain her full personality development, don't restrain her from the ethical and cultural agencies of life.

## Discussion of Marriage etc.

due to the lack of understanding and control of the sexual instinct," Dr. Parker said. "Every marriage counsellor attempting to adjust a husband and wife who are meeting with difficulty knows of many instances in which present troubles are closely linked to the lack of education in regard to sex. 4-21-45

"Vast sums of money are being expended for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal infections. In no field of medicine has greater advance been made. The American Medical Association is on record as recognizing the close relationship between sexual promiscuity and the spread of syphilis and gonorrhea.

"While reeducation of an adult is possible, it cannot take the place of early education through such character-training agencies as the home, church and school.

The state should assume responsibility for education for family life. This is as important as providing for the licensing and registration of marriage. For more than sixty years, leaders in education and medicine have urged

were Dr. J. Logan Young, president of the Queens Clinical Society, which is composed of Negro physicians, dentists and pharmacists; Dr. John Edward Lowry, chairman of the Advisory Committee on Negro Health, and Charles A. Freck, executive director of the Queensboro Association.

The second annual Institute for Ministers sponsored by the association, will be held Thursday afternoon and evening, April 26, in the Corona Congregational Church, 33-19 102nd street, Corona, starting at 2:30 P. M. Mrs. Sidonie M. Gruenberg, director of the Child Study Association of America, will discuss "Sex Education—Facts and Attitudes," and Miss Leonora B. Rubinow, director of personal service of the Veterans' Service Center, will speak on "The G. I. Bill of Rights." 4-21-45

The Rev. James R. Moore, pastor of Amity Baptist Church, Jamaica, will preside. Two motion pictures, "Army Chaplain" and "Defeat and Victory," will be shown. Ladies of the host church will serve dinner at 5:30 o'clock.

## Institutions Failure To Enlighten Youth Of

## Sex Education Basis Of Disease, Says Parker

New York Age

Failure on the part of home, church and school to consider positive sex education of the young as an essential part of preparation for life frequently causes disease, illegitimacy, prostitution and marital maladjustments, Dr. Valeria Hopkins Parker, director of the Bureau of Marriage Counsel and Education, Manhattan, asserted in an address Tuesday night before members of the Queens Clinical Society and the Advisory Committee on Negro Health of the Queensboro Tuberculosis and Health Association. 4-21-45

Dr. Parker spoke on "Sex Education on the Adult Level" at the society's sixth annual dinner in the Amber Lantern Restaurant, Flushing. Godias J. Drolet, first vice-president of the Queensboro Association, discussed "The Influence of Environment on Tuberculosis Among the Colored."

"Every physician has the opportunity to know of the widespread mental and spiritual wreckage

the importance of sex education, yet the average person has none. The time for education is now. We should have large funds for meeting educational needs as skillfully as medical needs are now being met. Sex education should be an integral part of preventive medicine."

Mr. Drolet, an Associate Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and a member of the American Epidemiological Society, reported that a survey based upon the examination of 20,000 Negroes by "very competent" physicians in the Union of South Africa established that whereas the incidence of tuberculosis under tribal conditions was but one-fourth of one per cent, it was eight times higher among Negroes settled in suburban and urban areas where they worked in the salt mines. 4-21-45

Dr. George D. Cannon, president of the North Harlem Medical Society, presided. Others at the dais

## N.C. College

## Plans Confab

## on Marriage

Baltimore Md.

DURHAM, N. C. —

Improvement of Personal Relationship that lead toward better Marriage and family Life" is the theme of the 4th annual conference on the Conservation of Marriage and the Family to be held here at North Carolina State College April 6-7.

Cosponsored by the college and the Marriage and Family Council, the conference this year, as for the past three years will be under the direction of Mrs. Gladys Hoagland Groves of Chapel Hill, noted authority on marriage and family problems. 4-7-45

## DR. PETONI SCHEDULED

Other participants on the program who will serve as chairmen consultante and leaders of special interest areers include Dr. Muriel Petioni Woolfolk of Bennett College, Greensboro; Dr. Flemmie P. Kittrell, Howard University, Washington; Mrs. Marie B. Shanks, Planned Parenthood Federation, New York City; Mrs. Dor-

othy Miller, principal of the Margaret Washington Vocational School, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Louise Trigg, health educator, Alabama State Department of Public Health, Montgomery; and Mrs. Jessie P. Guzman, director of Reference and Research, Tuskegee Institute.



# Davis Quizzes OPA on Rumor It Plans to Close Harlem Office

Councilman Benjamin J. Davis yesterday questioned Leo Gentner regional director of OPA on rumors that the Harlem OPA price control office is about to be closed.

"I am quite certain that the people of Harlem, of all races, creeds and colors, would consider this a major setback to their long fight to curb the extortionate prices charged for food and other merchandise in this community," Davis wrote.

He said Harlemites "would consider it also a blow to their efforts to maintain and secure high food qualities in the community," and added that he agreed with that point of view. The letter continued:

"To close down this OPA branch would be a go-ahead signal to those big business interests who have long considered Harlem a field ground for the merciless exploitation of the consumer. They have taken advantage of the fact that Harlem is still a ghetto where they can charge extortionate rent and where the people are victims of all kinds of economic discrimination because of their being members of minority groups." 7-18-45

The Councilman said he was calling on Gentner not only to confirm or deny the rumors but "to give guarantees that the office on 125th St. will be maintained." More such offices should be opened, he said, "at a time when the people of the community are very uncertain about the future, owing to the disproportionate layoffs which are hitting the Negro breadwinners."



# Sex Education

The Worker  
By J. B. S. HALDANE  
Fellow of the Royal Society

LONDON.

I HAVE had a number of letters asking my views on how children should be taught the facts about human reproduction. I answer with great diffidence, because I have no practical experience of teaching children, though I lecture to university students on various topics connected with sex.

To my mind there are several things wrong with our attitude to this problem. Some of them arise from the fact that sexual relations are used as a means of exploitation. The exploitation may be gross and obvious, as in prostitution, or more or less veiled, as when a husband expects his wife to do a 16-hour day in the house, or a flapper vamps sweets from a young man.

These will disappear to a large extent with socialism, provided that it includes complete economic equality of the sexes, as in the Soviet Union, and that the principle of the wage for the job applies to household work.

But that is not the whole story. In all kinds of human societies there is an emotional attitude to sexual relations, which makes their rational discussion very difficult. They are generally mixed up with religion, but even where this is not so, it is very hard to discuss these without being either sentimental or dirty.

THERE is, however, one set of people who manage this to a considerable extent, namely, professional biologists. Sex is only one of a number of biological functions, and not the most interesting one for most of us. We are as interested in a snail's peculiar method of storing sugar as in its peculiar habit of pushing a spike into its mate, in the secretions of a man's liver or thyroid gland as in those of his testicles.

In our conversation we pass from one of these topics to another without difficulty, whether or not we are all of the same sex. In such an atmosphere it is at least more likely that one will discover what is right and what

## Discussion of Sex

which damped down the mother's pain without making her unconscious.

One of the girls alarmed her father considerably by her determination to have a baby herself as soon as possible. When she had one, you may be sure that she insisted on using the resources of science to the fullest extent to help the baby and herself, and was a good deal less frightened than many mothers.

CHILDREN can be got into the frame of mind by teaching them biology. But it must be a real biology, the study of living plants and animals, including human. School biology consists mainly of anatomy, along with experiments on plants.

It could include a great deal of human physiology and anatomy. Obviously you cannot expect children to dissect a corpse, or to do experiments on one another involving careful chemical analysis or complicated electrical measurements.

BUT every secondary school should have a skeleton, and a model showing the more important organs of the body; and quite a number of experiments are easy.

For example, one can demonstrate such reflex actions as the contraction of the pupil when a light is shone on it, and the increase of the pulse rate with exercise.

It is a little harder, but quite interesting, to work out which muscles are concerned in various kinds of work, and to measure the force which they exert. In fact, you can accustom people to regard their bodies as things to be studied, like steam engines, French irregular verbs, or rivers. The anatomy and physiology of human reproduction would fit naturally into such a course of study. It is more important that it should not be taught separately, and should not be kept to the end of the course as a special tit-bit. Similarly, venereal diseases should be described along with other ailments.

At some point an account would have to be given of intercourse, which, like eating, begins with voluntary acts, and ends in a reflex as involuntary as swallowing.

A DOCTOR of my acquaintance believes that women should know what to expect, and therefore took both his daughters in their teens to see a baby born. It was born under good hospital conditions, with an anæsthetic, that is to say a drug

Some people will say that education of this kind would undermine the basis of morality. The basis of morality is regard for your neighbors and yourself. You cannot act rightly unless you know what you are doing and what are the probable consequences of your acts.

Others will say that if you take the mystery out of love you will lose its delight. On the contrary, I appreciate spring colors more, not less, because I know the chemical nature of the pigments which make young leaves yellower than mature ones. I should appreciate music better if I knew more musical theory. It is the same with love.

But I do not suppose for a moment that such proposals as my own will be accepted in a hurry. Opposition to such a spread of knowledge is not only religious. As Milton put it writing on divorce just 300 years ago: "The greatest burden in the world is superstition, not only of Ceremonies in the Church, but of imaginary and scarecrow sins at home."

However, I think that we ought to have some ideal before us in this matter, so that we can work toward it. I put forward my own views as a basis for discussion, preferably after the war is over.

My last request is that no one should write to me on the question, as I am sufficiently occupied with research for the fighting forces, and hope to be so for months to come.

Parents who wish to be completely frank and objective in discussing sex will do well to examine their own attitudes rather critically first. They ought also to check over their own knowledge of anatomy and sexual physiology before presenting unverified surmises. The children are interested in factual descriptions of the way their own bodies reproduce. They are not particularly interested in the birds, the bees, and the flowers and may construe an introduction along these lines as an evasion or even dishonesty. Pretty discussion of this nature does not explain the words, boasts and tall tales of their companions. The parent who sets the stage with an open, uninhibited approach need not worry about covering the important points adequately. He need only follow wherever the children's questions lead him. If he should then happen to gloss over or omit some important point inadvertently, the youngsters will feel free to return at any future date with additional questions.

Dick, a sixteen-year-old high school student had many fears and anxieties about sex. His father's instruction had centered

# Frankness in Sex Talks

Worker  
By DR. D. C. N.Y.

PARENTS who sit down to a heart to heart sexual talk with an adolescent son or daughter frequently find themselves floundering unsurely about and wishing they had never started the discussion in the first place. They find that they are asked for details, for facts and figures. They discover that their children are plagued by a multitude of half-understood fears brought on by vague warnings from sanctimonious elders.

It is the rule rather than the exception for our youngsters to grow up feeling that love-making is dirty, forbidden, and fraught with disease. Sexual teaching more often emphasizes shame than sincerity, venereal disease rather than satisfaction.



Parents' Attitude

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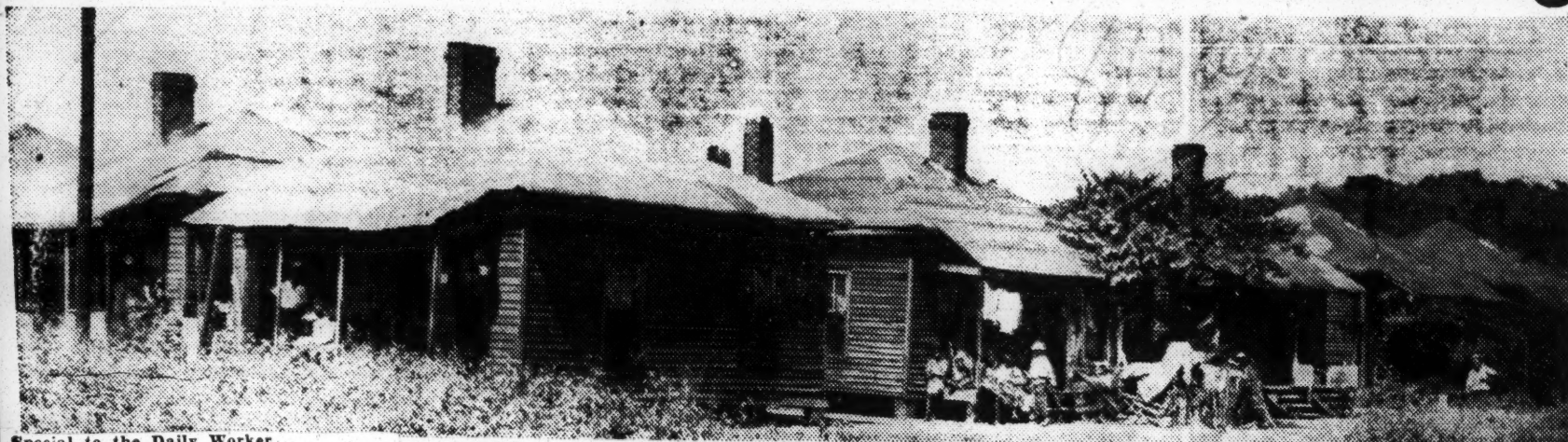
around a tale of a mythical relative who had changed from a healthy, strong, and promising young man to a broken down, disease-ridden failure. Mysterious kinds of sexual indulgences explained the transformation. Dick lived in constant fear of becoming diseased and weak-minded. He was socially inept and was afraid of the normal girl friendships of his friends. Dick's fearfulness of sex is a handicap which may well be a basis of constant frustration in his adult life as far as normal relationships with women and the building of a happy marriage are concerned.

Seventeen-year-old Florence on the other hand, is an outgoing, well adjusted girl. Her parents have always permitted her to question them as freely on sex as any other topic. She is not only well informed, but also has an appreciation of the deep and fulfilling satisfactions to be found in mature love. Her parents can be assured that her standards of behavior will be high because they are based on knowledge and understanding and not on fear.



# 250 Evicted in Alabama Negro Slum; Denied Home by Ban on U.S. Housing

*The Daily Worker New York, New York 10-2-45*



Special to the Daily Worker

BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 1. — At least 250 Negro residents were without homes after the Jefferson County Board of Health moved to shut down 32 of the most unsanitary dwellings in the slum area of downtown Birmingham. No provision was made for those evicted in spite of the severe housing shortage in this community.

The action of the Health Department came only two months after the State Legislature rushed through a law banning the construction of federal housing projects in Jefferson County.

The 32 condemned dwelling units are 16 double tenant houses on an unpaved street between two main railroad lines. Each of the units housed between five and eight persons. There was no gas, light or running water. Only one water pump and one outdoor toilet were in operation. (The three other toilets had been locked up for a number of years.)

In a letter to the real estate agents Dr. George Dennison, County Health officer pointed out that

## NO REPAIRS

"Human excrement is allowed to accumulate on the surface of the ground; that insect carriers of filth and disease were feeding upon the excrement; a serious health hazard exists. . . ."

The owner of the houses charged six dollars per month in rent for each unit and, according to the tenants, no repairs have been made in eight years. The owner informed

the Health Department that it would be unprofitable to make the repairs necessary to make the houses conform to sanitation requirements.

The 250 Negro residents evicted are in effect the first victims of the ban on federal housing projects in Alabama's most populous county.

The question of federal housing will be one of the leading issues in the 1946 elections to the State Legislature.

Leading opponent of federal projects is State Senator James A. Simpson, whose notorious "white supremacy" campaign for U. S. Senate against the incumbent Lister Hill, led to his defeat in the Democratic primaries in May, 1944. Simpson, as the leader of the Jefferson County delegation to the Alabama Legislature bears major responsibility for the passage of the law against federal housing in Birmingham.

Simpson, in a recent address before the Birmingham Rotary Club, attempted to defend his position by charging that Federal housing meant "collectivism" and unfair competition with private enterprise.

He was ably answered by Frank Spain, one of the county commissioners in charge of the administration of Birmingham's five housing projects, who pointed to the great benefits to the community both in terms of elimination of slum areas and in stimulation to private housing construction which have resulted from the federal housing program in Jefferson County. Spain cited figures show-

ing that more than 40,000 families in Birmingham today are living in sub-standard homes.

Protests against the ban on federal housing came from labor and Negro organizations, from church and community organizations and from the Birmingham News-Age-Herald, leading Alabama newspaper.

Candidates for election to the State Legislature in 1946 will be forced to take a stand on the issue of public housing before the people of this community.

## HARLEM CHILDREN VISIT NEW ENGLAND

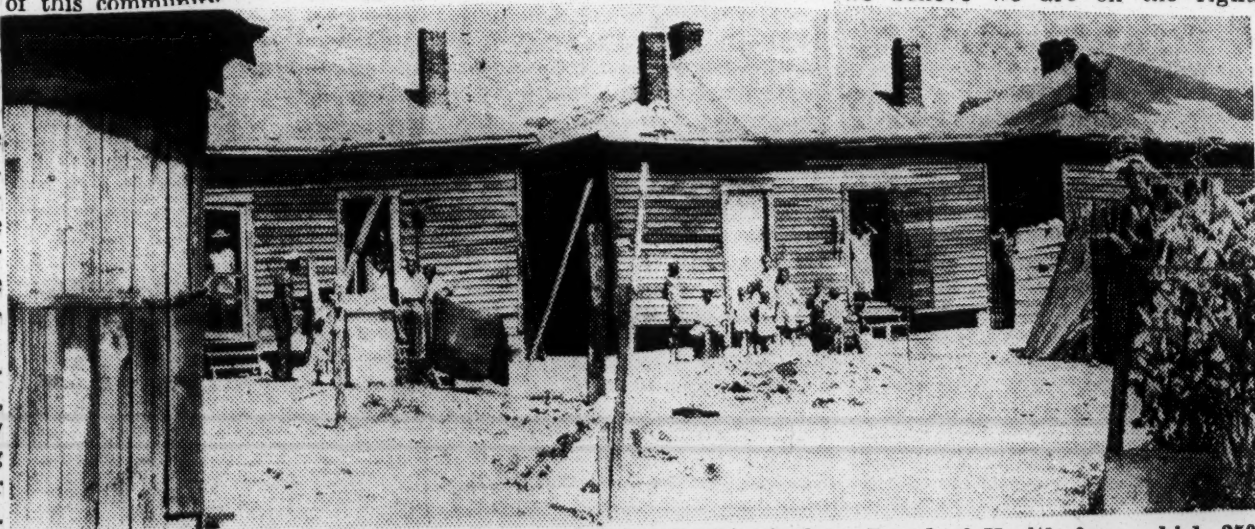
*New York Times*

Experiment of Vermont Pastor to Better Race Relations

Extends to 4 States

10-7-45

By WILLIAM M. BLAIR



Two views of the 32-dwelling units condemned by the Birmingham Board of Health from which 250 Negroes have been evicted. Birmingham meanwhile banned federal housing which could have provided homes for them. One pump served the group of homes. A refuse dump is part of the scene.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BOSTON, Oct. 6—The "aggressive good will" of the Rev. A. Ritchie Low is paying dividends.

In the summer of 1944, a Congregational minister of Johnson, Vt., started a program of taking Negro children from crowded Harlem to spend two weeks with white families in the small towns and on

the farms in northern Vermont.

This year his idea for improving relations between racial and religious groups and building friendships on a "natural basis" spread to New Hampshire, Connecticut and Illinois.

Next summer there will be a large number of Negro youngsters between the ages of 9 and 12 visiting with white families in the three New England states. And, in addition, the Rev. Mr. Low plans to arrange for a group of Chinese children, probably from New York, to go to Vermont.

He would like to see the "good will" spread even farther and suggested that other sections of the country, particularly the west coast with its Japanese population, and the southwestern states with sizable Mexican settlements, might be fertile territory.

The Rev. Mr. Low does not regard Negroes as a problem any more than whites or any other racial group.

"The idea is not to regard people as white and Negro but as human beings, as fellow Americans to be understood and appreciated," he said.

To carry out this thought, he declared, the church should carry through on the "affirmative, not merely talking or adopting resolutions."

## Visit by 90 Planned in 1946

"This year we had more (white) homes to send children to than we had children," he said. "Next summer we expect to take ninety children from New York. I would like to see it increased to 150 children. We have a lot to learn but we believe we are on the right

track." Many Vermonters who were hosts to the Negro youngsters have visited them in their New York homes. "That makes it a two-way proposition," the Rev. Mr. Low said.

The Negro children have been

the State Council of Churches, made arrangements with the Rev. Shelton Hale Bishop, rector of St. Phillip's Church, New York.

Roman Catholic and Jewish. The children who visited Vermont were chosen by leaders of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, which provided transportation costs.

the Connecticut program had lifted the horizons of many people and that many of the Negro children wanted to go back again. Twelve Negro youngsters from Hartford were in the first group last summer. More are expected to be chosen next summer.

Next week-end, Oct. 12-14, a group of white children with whom the New York boys and girls made friends will be taken by the Rev. Mr. Young for a three-day visit to New York where Negro families will be their hosts.

Like the Rev. Mr. Low, the Rev. Mr. Young said he was struck with the great friendliness, good will

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### Two Attend Vermont School

"There was a great deal of interest on the part of those who did not entertain the children," the Rev. Mr. Lee reported.

The Connecticut hosts had homes in or near Riverton, West Torrington, Sherman and Northfield.

None of the ministers reported encountering any real active opposition. "There is an amazing amount of good-will everywhere," said one churchman.

The Rev. Mr. Low told of two Negro children whose father is in the Navy. They had attended school in North Carolina in 1943-44 and then had moved with their mother to New York. After visiting Vermont last year in the first group they went back for the winter of 1944-45 to attend school in a little red schoolhouse.

"They adapted themselves quickly, made good marks and were treated exceptionally well," he said. 10-7-48

For many of the Vermont youngsters it was the first time they had seen colored children and the experience was as enlightening as it was novel.

The Rev. Mr. Low was born in England, educated in Aberdeen (he still has a Scotch burr), Montreal and New York, and was ordained at the Alliance Seminary at Nyack, N. Y., in 1923.



80a-1945

# 125 Family Housing Units For Negroes Are Officially Approved

Plans for development of a Negro housing project on the Bankhead Highway, north end of Center Street, North Birmingham, consisting of 125 family units and financed by private interests, have been completed. Hill Ferguson, director of the Jefferson County Planning Board, announced Saturday.

J. M. Wainwright and Walter K. Dean, who bought the land for the development, have received approval of the Federal Housing Administration and the National Housing Agency for the project and application for the release of essential materials and equipment is pending before the War Manpower Commission.

The Birmingham Home Builders Association, backing the project, is urging the WMP to issue the necessary work order so that work may begin at the earliest possible date.

The Jefferson County Planning Board assisted in working out details and has joined in the recommendation for necessary materials. Work will begin on release of material.

THE HOMES TO BE built will be similar to those built on Sixth Avenue, South, in the Tittlesville district, about a year ago.

Owners of this property were one of the Jemison companies and the Wofford Bond and Mortgage Company. Elbert Jemison and Lamar Smith, of the Jemison Company, and Nat Hawkins, of the Wofford Company, negotiated the deal.

"The last business transaction of the late Robert Jemison, Sr., who died in 1926, was to assist the Episcopal Church in acquiring a site in this neighborhood for St. Marks Negro School," Mr. Ferguson said.

"At the same time Robert Jemison, Jr., and the late George T. Wofford acquired a 30-acre tract adjoining, and St. Marks Village was laid out, on which they proposed to develop a residential district for Negroes similar to Central Park, Fairfield, he added.

"HOWEVER, THE CHURCH WAS FORCED TO CHANGE its plans and the depression years which followed were not propitious for new subdivisions, so the project has been dormant in the meantime. Bob Jemison and the Wofford family are highly pleased that this property has now been acquired by a syndicate that is so well qualified and able to carry out the original conception of St. Marks Village.

## Negro Housing Project Reactivation Forecast

Reactivation of the negro housing project at Paterson Courts started in 1942 but suspended in August of that year because of war conditions, has been programmed by the Federal Housing Authority for the erection of 44 units, and submitted to the President for approval, Congressman George Grant informed The Advertiser yesterday. According to Congressman Grant, the FHA feels final approval will be given by the President.

## Homes Denied By Dixie Law

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Thirty-two Negro families were left homeless last week after eviction notices had been tacked on their doors by the Jefferson County Health Dept in a move against unsanitary slum conditions. The houses in question shelter about 250 persons and are wedged between two railroad lines on an unpaved street.

Alabama

paved street. 9-8-45

The houses consist of two room apartments, renting for \$6 a month, each of which five to eight persons live. There is no gas, electricity or running water; one water pump and one primitive toilet serve the whole row of houses. The non-usable toilet facilities, according to the health officer's report, have created a serious health hazard. The plight of these families and others in similar circumstances is all the more hopeless in light of a law passed two months ago by the state legislature barring any further Federal housing projects in Jefferson County.

The bill was backed by powerful real estate interests and passed despite the protests of community organizations, including the Southern Negro Youth Congress. The present situation is that there are no vacant houses in Negro areas for the evicted, and private capital is reluctant to invest in renting homes for Negroes.

## Acute Shortage Of Housing In Tuskegee Prevents Servicemen And Families Uniting

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Dreams of returning home to their wives and perhaps to babies they have never seen are being rudely shattered for servicemen now arriving here from overseas battlefields, according to Miss Mercedes J. Hopkins, director of the USO Travelers Aid, which handles housing for newcomers to Tuskegee, Ala.

"Scores of these men, many of them wearers of the Distinguished Flying Cross and other awards," Miss Hopkins declared, "have been returned to TAAF on the rotation plan and are finding that householders here are not opening their homes to them because they have children or because, being servicemen, they may not be permanent residents."

### URGE THAT VACANT ROOMS BE LISTED

In urging that more vacant rooms be listed, Miss Hopkins asserted that at present only 100 rooms are on file with the USO Travelers Aid although there are an average of ten to fifteen calls a day for living quarters coming into her office.

"The uppermost thought in the minds of men overseas is to get back home again to their families," she said. One soldier just returned from a year overseas, whose wife lives in Atlanta, Ga., because he cannot rent a room here, has seen his wife only six days in the eighteen months they have been married. Another young serviceman has been hunting fruitlessly for a room or apartment so he can bring his wife and baby son, whom he has never seen, to Tuskegee to be near him while he is stationed at TAAF.

"These boys have taken everything the enemy could throw at them on the battlefield, but perhaps it's a little more than they can take to find that the folks at home discriminate against them because they are soldiers and fathers."

So acute is the housing situation here, she declared, that more than spare rooms are needed. "Even unused attic storerooms or vacant lofts over garages are welcomed by servicemen," she said. "They are not demanding or expecting luxurious quarters—all they want is a place where they can bring their wives and families."

Persons having vacant apartments or rooms with kitchen priv-

ileges are urged by Miss Hopkins to list these with the USO Travelers Aid, Room 106, Academic Building, Tuskegee Institute Campus, telephone 614.

### UNBIASED LEGISLATURE?

To the Editor of The News:

We recently had plainly brought to our attention the selfish attitudes of our Jefferson County legislators. We know now their primary aim at Montgomery is to look out for their own interests and not the interests of the state as a whole. However, this isn't difficult to understand when we consider how many of our legislators are in the real estate business themselves. This passage of the anti-federal housing project bills is another example of their true motives.

They shout their belief in private enterprise to high heaven. This makes very loud publicity talk. But do they think the people of this county and state are so ignorant as to swallow this propaganda, hook, line and sinker? Many of us believe in private enterprise, but we also believe in the federal government stepping in and relieving situations when private enterprise is too dollar-crazy to do it themselves.

Did private enterprise take care of the housing conditions in Birmingham prior to federal housing units being built? Are they taking care of housing in Birmingham even yet? If you think they are, look around town at the houses, particularly Negro houses, that are filthy, disease-ridden and about to fall down of their own accord. I believe we need more federal housing projects to take the place of these slums that are a disgrace to our city and county. Are the real estate firms or private enterprise eliminating these? Oh, no. They would much rather have the ill-gotten rent from these slums than to improve them. What difference does it make to them the conditions under which people live so long as they are getting their monthly rent from them?

This Legislature really takes the cake. First, they passed the Bradford anti-labor act which in itself was a disgrace to the state. Next, they declined to remove our poll tax evils, and now, the prize of all, they are trying to keep the federal government from eliminating slums so

the real estate bigwigs can continue to get their pockets filled with money from sub-standard housing.

Let's be sure to remember these things when election time comes again.

R. S. THOMAS.

Gainesville, Fla. (formerly of Birmingham.)

### VOTERS WILL REMEMBER

To the Editor of The News:

Birmingham has lost the only chance it ever had to eliminate a large part of its slums and unsightly, filthy houses, through the scheming of her real estate operator representatives. They try to justify their dictator-like action by pretending they will clear this awful condition through their respective clients, although they never tried to heretofore, and we know the only change they intend to make in the future is to raise the rents on these shacks—especially Negro. They even advertise this property as producing 33 per cent revenue.

Why doesn't our governor do something about this unjust legislation? He is the governor of Jefferson County, too, isn't he?

Even though in some cases it is true that the housing authority has raised the rents far beyond the income brackets for which these houses were built, we also know that that authority is the same bunch that was behind this bill and got control of these projects. The voters of Jefferson County come election day will make a right.

I own my own house and have for many years, but I realize that the only way real estate can go in Birmingham is down unless the shacks are torn down or cleaned up.

THOMAS E. IVEY.

645 Princeton Avenue.



# The Birmingham News

PUBLIC HOUSING

The housing authorities of Birmingham and Jefferson County were set up under legislation enacted by the General Assembly in 1935. Public housing was then one of the devices used by the federal government to pull the country out of stagnation and to give people with low incomes shelter they could not have in the slums of the nation. There were some vested interests which did not like this departure. But they could do little to stem the tide of approval which came from most Americans. In Alabama, as elsewhere, State Legislatures hastened to make it possible for housing authorities to function for the purpose of making the plan of the federal government locally effective. **6-15-45**

That was 10 years ago, and some people have already forgotten that we were then in the midst of a depression. Jeshurun waxed fat and kicked. That kick is embodied in the bill which has just gone through the State Senate, emasculating the housing authority of Birmingham in order that private initiative may have a clear field. The effect of this measure is to halt any further development in low-income housing, which depends on government aid and which is not interested in profits. It is hard to believe that all members of our delegation appreciated this inevitable consequence. If they had, they would not have lent themselves so utterly to this shocking business.

The spirit behind this legislation has been boldly and baldly expressed by a proponent who said it was intended to stop federal housing in its tracks in order that private enterprise may do the work. He was generous enough to point out that federal aid for the clearing of blighted areas will be encouraged, but that it will not be permitted to go beyond that point. Even an exponent of private enterprise though the heavens fall cannot be expected to be altogether consistent. He is willing for the federal government to step in when that will save him money, but he is unwilling to let families with small incomes enjoy low rentals, because that would prevent his clients from mulcting the profits they anticipate.

He is all the more ready to take this position because, in his opinion, "the low-income group does not exist now." He assumes that the conditions which prevail today will be here forever. Even more significantly, he assumes that private investors and builders will gladly go into the red for the sake of getting the government out of housing. Much more persuasive is J. C. deHoll, executive director, Birmingham Housing Authority, who declares explicitly that "decent, safe and sanitary housing for low-income families is impossible without a subsidy," which the federal government alone is ready to provide.

The pity of the situation is that it was quite unnecessary to gut federal housing in order to enable private business to launch its own public housing projects. There is ample room for both types of enterprise. Realtors and builders are not primarily interested in low-income developments. They aim at a higher level, because there is where the profit lies. Why, then, didn't our delegation proceed on this more moderate, live-and-let-live basis? That's the question, indeed. One answer is perhaps an anti-New Deal slant in some quarters. But could not such a point of view have had its inning, without robbing the community of the right to have its say before the legislation was so summarily rushed through?

# Up To The Governor!

The Birmingham News

It is up to Governor Sparks to block the Jefferson County delegation's amazing plan to deprive this city and county of further federal aid in the financing of low-cost housing—it is up to the governor, that is, unless the delegation itself sees the astounding error of its course and acts accordingly.

The News is confident that the great majority of the people of the county is opposed to this legislation which, with no public discussion, has been approved by both the Senate and the House at Montgomery. **6-15-45**

There are some citizens, including members of the Jefferson delegation, who no doubt believe that federal aid in housing construction for low-income families is not going to be justified or needed after the war. Presumably, the delegation acted on that conviction. But the point is that it is utterly indefensible to have taken such far-reaching action without giving public opinion an adequate chance to express itself on the matter.

Given such an opportunity, the people, we believe, would have expressed themselves so strongly as to have checked the delegation.

Which inevitably raises the question in many minds as to whether there was design in the legislation's quiet course.

It is no sufficient excuse if members of the delegation say the legislation was put through regular channels without concealment. There are ways and ways of doing things and in a matter so extensively involving the public interest no doubt should have been left that the people knew what was going on.

As a matter of fact, the people certainly did not know what was going on.

That will be attested, we believe, by the protests now mounting against the delegation's action. **Birmingham News**

It is now the duty of the people and of officials opposed to this legislation to make themselves forcefully heard at Montgomery.

It is not too late to prevent the community calamity that final enactment would produce.

The bills for the execution of the plan suggest the encouragement of better housing for low-income families. They would authorize "redevelopment" agencies for the clearance of blighted areas, even with the aid of public funds. But federal aid could not be obtained for actual construction.

This is, in our considered opinion, a positively ridiculous conception.

Imagine that a large slum area has been cleared, public funds being used. Would private capital then be ready to go forward with the development of low-cost housing except under concessions that would make profitable operations possible? Would it insist on a land price below actual value?

Unless some such concessions were granted, the cleared sites, of course, might lie idle. That would be a pressure that could be used to obtain concessions.

If concessions were granted, special interests conceivably might profit, at the public expense. For what would give private interests the impetus to develop such cleared areas except concessions? Without them, might not private interests as profitably develop their own projects all the way?

# Voice Of The People

The Birmingham News

HOUSING IN BIRMINGHAM

To the Editor of The News:

The action of the Alabama Legislature barring further federal housing in the Birmingham district very apparently will meet with public reaction. Such legislation deserves thorough consideration instead of hasty action. The citizenship of the Birmingham district and Alabama should be permitted to have all details, hear arguments, pro and con, so they might properly determine whether such legislation will protect the future welfare of the city of Birmingham and Alabama, or whether it was hasty legislation designed with an ulterior motive to protect special interests, and enacted under the guise of future protection of private enterprise. **Birmingham News**

As one who believes in the right of initiative and protection of private enterprise, but who also will go just as far to protect the right of the workers in the low-income groups, I think there are some outstanding facts that should be considered. First, what was the status of housing of the low-income bracket group in the Birmingham district when the federal government started the housing program in the Birmingham district?

To say it was ridiculous is putting it mildly. It is just as ridiculous to say that there is no low-income group existing now in the Birmingham district and in the state of Alabama.

The government, through legislation, provided a federal housing program to give decent living conditions to those who were forced, in the past, to live in shacks and hovels, and many of these shacks and hovels still exist in Birmingham today. Full credit must be given to the federal government which provides this housing through a subsidy program that no private real estate group could or would furnish. **6-15-45**

This newly enacted law will certainly do one thing, as I see it, and that is to protect the interests of those who now receive rents from these shacks and hovels that are not fit places for human habitation, and a disgrace to Birmingham or any other city where they exist.

Second, why should the Birmingham district, or the state of Alabama, isolate itself and oppose further federal housing projects when the rest of the United States will gladly accept

such a program? It is evident that some, and this even goes for those in the legislative halls, are living in the past. They cannot recognize that such legislation as has been enacted does not fit the postwar picture. With the vast sums of money that the government will undoubtedly expend throughout the United States, there should be an effort made by representatives of the people to secure for Birmingham and Alabama their proportionate share of all the advantages offered by the government. **6-15-45**

No one will deny that the housing program in the Birmingham district has been a god-send to Birmingham, and the only way we would have received it was through federal action. These housing projects have tremendously increased real estate values throughout the various sections of our city.

Third, over and above all of this, it would appear to me that the citizens of Birmingham and Alabama should be given all facts, and have a thorough understanding of a program of this character before such a law was enacted. Unfortunately, they have not been aware of what has been going on, and undoubtedly it is agreed that this legislation has been hastily pushed through. We all recognize that the functions of a legislative group should be to represent no special interests but to represent the interest and welfare of all citizens. **6-15-45** WILLIAM MITCH, President District 20, U. M. W. of A.



# Negroes Notified to Vacate Japs' Temple In California

Los Angeles, Dec. 31 (UP)—Army permission for evacuated Japanese-Americans to return to the West Coast has resulted in Negro tenants of the Honjuwanji Buddhist Temple being given notice to vacate and a possible court battle looms over the notice.

The Rev. Julius A. Goldwater, a Buddhist priest who was given power of attorney by the Jap owners of the temple, one of the largest in Southern California, gave the notice to vacate January 5, when the lease expires.

The temple now houses the Providence Baptist Church and 75 Negro war workers. Dr. L. B. Brown, president of Providence Baptist Institute, announced the church group has retained an attorney in the vacancy matter.

**DOWN BEAT**  
(CHICAGO, ILL.)  
Cir. 57,760

SEP 1 - 1945

## Carter Wins Right To Live In Home

W.R.A. to Open 20 Offices.

"We have made a \$7,200 down payment, thinking that we were purchasing the temple, and we have \$25,000 to put down," Dr. Brown said. "We are not opposed to the Japanese returning, but we believe, since many of our people are war workers, that we are entitled to certain considerations."

Goldwater said he had not heard whether Japanese owners of the temple are returning, but he gave the vacancy notice sooner. Presiding judge decided the premises would be ready in case they did return.

Paul G. Robertson, newly appointed War Relocation Administration supervisor for Southern California and Arizona, disclosed 20, and possibly 26, branch offices will be established in California to assist evacuated Japanese-Americans who wish to return.

Many Japs Pick Midwest.

"Frankly, we don't expect many Japanese to return to this area," he said, in emphasizing that much of the personal property of the Japs, evacuated in 1942 from the West Coast as a precautionary measure, had been shipped to the Midwest and East, where the evacuees are relocating. The Army recently ruled that loyal Japanese can return to their West Coast homes January 2.

Robertson said there are 61,000 Japanese from California remaining in eight relocation centers and not all of these will be eligible for release.

Los Angeles—Benny Carter won the right to retain and live in his own home following a court suit instigated by the white owner of property adjacent to Carter. The suit attracted national attention because of the nature of the case.

Basis of the suit against Carter was a so-called "restrictive covenant" established several years ago restricting the neighborhood to members of the Caucasian race, whatever race that might be.

Carter was co-defendant along with another Negro property owner. Presiding judge decided in favor of Carter by stating that the neighborhood property had not lost value, that there were several other Negroes living in the same district and "it would therefore be inequitable to impose restrictions in these two instances." Neatly sidestepped was any reference as to whether an American citizen had the right to own property anywhere regardless of his race.

Defendants who have been served and who will be represented at the trial include Dr. J. A. Somerville, prominent dentist and former head of the local NAACP; Drs. W. Bailey, W. Clyde Allen, J. P. Taylor, and Thomas R. Peyton, well known physicians; Horace Clark, owner of the Clark Hotel; K. C. Venerable, chain hotel owner; Lieut. Leslie King, retired U.S. Army officer; Mrs. Senola Maxwell Green, school teacher; Juan Tzol, and Russell Smith, musicians, and a number of others equally prominent in various fields.

Noble Sissle, band leader; Ben Carter, screen actor; Norman Houston, secretary-treasurer of the Golden State Insurance Company, and numerous other public figures also live in the same section, but occupy covenant-free lots and were not sued. The tract lies between LaSalle Street and Western Avenue and between Washington and Adams Boulevards.

# Movie Stars Seek Right to Live in Homes

LOS ANGELES—The ominous spectre of race restriction covenants in Los Angeles will again occupy the spotlight Wednesday, Dec. 5, when more than thirty prominent business and professional personalities, including Screen Actresses Hattie McDaniel and Louise Beavers, defend their rights in Superior Court to occupy their own homes in the swank West Adams Heights "Blueberry Hill" district.

The trial will bring to a climax a smouldering four-year-old effort on the part of some white residents of the area to enforce a racial covenant under terms of which part of the property in the area is restricted against use and occupancy by all persons "not entirely of the white blood." Ethel Waters, who owns a home in the area, was named as a defendant, but according to Attorney Loren Miller, who represents most of the defendants, was never served and is not required to appear.

## WHO'S WHO ROSTER 12-1-45

Defendants who have been served and who will be represented at the trial include Dr. J. A. Somerville, prominent dentist and former head of the local NAACP; Drs. W. Bailey, W. Clyde Allen, J. P. Taylor, and Thomas R. Peyton, well known physicians; Horace Clark, owner of the Clark Hotel; K. C. Venerable, chain hotel owner; Lieut. Leslie King, retired U.S. Army officer; Mrs. Senola Maxwell Green, school teacher; Juan Tzol, and Russell Smith, musicians, and a number of others equally prominent in various fields.

Noble Sissle, band leader; Ben Carter, screen actor; Norman Houston, secretary-treasurer of the Golden State Insurance Company, and numerous other public figures also live in the same section, but occupy covenant-free lots and were not sued. The tract lies between LaSalle Street and Western Avenue and between Washington and Adams Boulevards.

## ACTIONS LUMPED IN SINGLE HEARING

The fight to oust so-called non-Caucasian residents opened more than two years ago when Sidney R. Dones, well known real estate broker, was sued, but that action was never brought to trial and will finally be determined along with other suits slated for the Dec. 5

trial. Dones was not the first resident of the area, however, and the reason for singling him out was never made clear.

Last spring five other suits were filed involving thirty-five other occupants of individual parcels of land and two other suits have been filed since that time. All have been consolidated for trial and will be heard at the same time. One Korean family is listed among the defendants.

Attorney Miller, who will be assisted at the trial by Attorney William O. Tyler, asserts that the covenants are invalid on numerous technical constitutional grounds and also advances the claim that change of character in the community as well as delays bringing the suit bars the relief sought by the various plaintiffs. The same general pattern in answers has been followed by other attorneys, all white, who represent other defendants.



# Plan Afoot To Ghetto Negroes

People's Voice  
4-21-45

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—A proposal to drive Negro residents into black ghettos as a means of conserving real estate values is the shocking proposal made in a study sponsored by the housing committee of the chamber of commerce in this city, the National Urban League has reported. The Urban League has demanded that the Bridgeport Chamber of Commerce publicly repudiate the report, but thus far this has not been done.

The study, made by the Roy Wenzlick Co., whose headquarters are in St. Louis, Missouri, states in part: "It is our experience that in most cities, co-mingling of the races in neighborhoods is found only among the lowest standard of living groups of both races.

"Real estate values decline most rapidly where there is a co-mingling of the races. . . . From the standpoint of maintaining the desirability of residential developments, both white and colored, it is recommended that districts be either one or the other." 4-21-45

According to the recommendations of the plan, public housing projects would be completely jim-cro in Bridgeport and all sections of the country. Officials of the chamber of commerce hedged when pressed by Lester Granger, Urban League executive secretary, to state their position. Robert Crosby, secretary of the chamber, stated that no action was planned on the study, and that it would be used as a "guide for business."

Mayor Jasper McLevy and director Harold C. Poole of the Bridgeport Housing Authority both oppose the plan.



80a-1945

Housing- D.C.

**Guam Hall, a Residence for Women  
War Workers, Is Dedicated and Opened;  
Miss Harriet L. Young Is Director**

WASHINGTON. — Guam hall, the third of the residence halls for women war workers to be constructed by the Federal Works Agency, Public Buildings Administration, for the account of the Federal Public Housing Authority, of the National Housing Agency, at Langston Stadium, Washington, D. C., was dedicated and opened for public inspection Thursday evening, April 5. About 400 guests were present.

J. P. Hulk, of the McShane Construction company presented the keys to E. R. Witman, Deputy Commissioner of the Public Buildings Administration, and he in turn presented them to W. J. Bissell, manager of residence halls of Public Buildings Administration. Dr. Marshall Shepard, Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia, was the principal speaker.

"If we in America concentrate on worthy objectives, fraternal democracy and brotherhood are not impossible ideals," declared Dr. Shepard. "We have come a long way toward democracy, but we still have a long way to go. It took a great world war to make it possible for white men and black men to fight in the same ranks without segregation as they are now doing in some parts of Germany."

Pointing out certain values of government dormitories, Dr. Shepard said that they are an indication of idealism in government and of the interest of government in its workers. This interest will increase after the war until it reaches the welfare of all the people, and it serves as a fine example to private industry.

Dr. Shepard mentioned also some values to the dormitory dwellers. In this type of living and working together, they have an opportunity to clear away prejudice, to develop understanding and a spirit of cooperation, which makes it a venture in friendship, he said. In concluding, he expressed the belief that although it is now a part of democracy to live in separate accommodations by race, the time will come when under the inspiration of a great common cause these differences will fade.

The Langston residence hall chorus sang several songs. Miss Eugenia Embray, representative of the Home Council, was mistress of ceremonies. Miss Harriet L. Young, director of Guam Hall, supervised the inspection tour and open-house activities.

Florida

80a-1945

**Miami admits to worse  
Negro slums in the South**

MIAMI — This city admittedly has possibly the worst slum districts in its Negro community in the entire Southland.

Figures of a survey conducted recently by the Miami Planning Board reveal that the congested Negro district occupied only 1.96 per cent of the total land area of Miami, but Negroes are 18.06 per cent of the population of the city and in the central Negro district there are 81.62 persons to the acre.

The over-all population of Miami averages only 8.87 persons to the acre, but Miami's 31,098 Negroes are crowded into 318 of its 19,417.6 acres of land. Some 141,000 whites are sprinkled over the bulk of the city.

In 1940, the survey revealed there were only 52 vacant tenant units in the entire Negro district. Of the housekeeping units, 4,755 have no private baths.

The Negro district in 1940 paid an average rent of \$19.10 per unit, and a total of \$170,465 in taxes or 3.7 per cent of the city's total, paying more than double for the space occupied.



# Negroes Prefer Tents To Housing Project

COLUMBUS, Ga., Aug. 5 (AP)— of clothing are piled up at the entrance flap. There are no sanitation facilities. A laundry stove serves for cooking as well as heating in winter.

And because they can't go home, they prefer their tent hovels to the luxury of a government low-cost housing project.

But the county sanitary engineer, J. A. Willman, says these unsightly 16 by 16 foot tents are a health menace and must go by Sept. 1.

The Negroes were uprooted last fall by the building of a \$900,000 Negro low-cost housing project. Their tumble-down \$8 to \$11 a month "shotgun" shacks had to go to make room for the modern, two-story brick buildings.

So they moved over to an adjacent vacant lot where each family pays \$3.50 a month for tent space.

Now the 160-unit project's about finished. But the Negroes can't move into the gleaming buildings. They're for war workers only.

The housing authority has offered the tent dwellers quarters in another low cost housing project about six blocks away.

Here the rents run from \$10 to \$25 a month. The rents in the newly completed project are \$22 to \$26.

"We all want to move over there," says tent dweller Will Battle, pointing to the new project on the site of their former homes.

"We've always lived over there."

Battle has a mule that he keeps behind his tent. He makes his living as a drayman and by plowing and working people's gardens.

"In the place they want us to move, I wouldn't have no place to keep my mule," he lamented.

"I think we could pay the rent, all right."

Said Brown Nicholson, an executive of the Columbus housing authority:

"They were moved out of a horrible slum section, and set up their homes in the tent colony. They're a type who don't care about sanitation."

"I don't care whether they move into our housing project. We offered it to them because they have been ordered to vacate their tents by Sept. 1."

A double bed covers nearly all of a tent. Chests, trunks and boxes

Outside the tents there are flowers blooming. There are chicken coops, pets, dogs and cats. Children's wagons and tricycles lie about the yards.

Across the road are two of war-booming Columbus' swankiest night clubs.



**'The Living Dead'**

Editor Constitution: In last Sunday's issue of The Constitution I read with much interest the article written by Paul Jones entitled "The Living Dead" which depicted a very sad story concerning the unfortunate Negroes housed at 199 Houston street. 2-20-45

I am glad to know that Mr. Jones interested himself in calling to the attention of the public a situation which has gone unnoticed much too long. The situation was adequately described and in no way exaggerated. 2-20-45

About six months ago it was necessary for the writer to visit this institution in interest of several visually handicapped persons who had been referred to an organization of which she is a volunteer worker. I was surprised to learn that most of the inmates of whom I inquired and with whom I talked were recipients of public funds, and to note what inadequate provision was being made for their welfare and care.

Probably the person in charge is sincere in her desire to help unfortunate people and feels that she is rendering a much needed service to these inmates and to the community—and she is—for if she did not make them welcome to live there, where would they go?

MRS. R. TAYLOR JACKSON  
Atlanta.

## NEGRO RESIDENTIAL SECTION IS OPENED

### Constitution Hill Contains 135 Acres

A new colored residential section to be known as Liberty City will be formally opened today on Mills B. Lane Boulevard, about four miles from the downtown district.

The property consists of 135 acres of land which have been purchased by the Liberty City Associates, a syndicate of local white business men who are interested in the development of colored residential sections in Savannah. The land has been divided into approximately 600 lots, each 60 by 100 feet, which are being sold by the Liberty City Associates to colored citizens. The sales are being handled through the Helmly Real Estate Service.

"Liberty City" fronts for approximately 2,600 feet on Mills B. Lane highway, beginning just across the viaduct, and extends south from the highway for almost a mile. Plans are to sell the lots for construction of only nice houses. The property is already being developed with wide streets and a main center boulevard having a parkway in the middle.

T. C. Helmly, president of the realty company negotiating the sales, said yesterday that the new section seems to be filling a very necessary need for better colored residential sites in Savannah. A number of the lots have already been sold, he said even before the property is officially placed open for purchase.

Until recently the property has been in the Minis family here, having been owned by them since 1783. It is popularly known as Constitution Hill.

SAVANNAH, GA.  
NEWS

Circ. D. 40,666 - S. 42,018

JUN 28 1945

## Mayor Discusses Housing Situation In Negro Sections

### Urges Public Support of Measures to Clear "Sub- standard" Areas

BY MAYOR THOMAS GAMBLE

Three-fourths of the 115,000 permanent residents of Savannah certainly do not know how the other one-fourth live.

If they did they would take determined steps to improve their housing conditions and environment and redeem their city from the disgraceful slum areas which cover so large a portion of Savannah and which house probably 10,000 of its negro population, while another 15,000 live under conditions slightly better but still far from being sanitary.

Thousands of dwellings well deserve the title applied to them, "sub-standard," but that hardly expresses it.

Many hundreds of them demand removal. Their condition is hopeless.

All over the United States there is a wave setting in against conditions of housing which are inimical to health and morals, devoid of ordinary decency, and which breed crime and disease and lower the working morale of an innumerable army in every city of every size.

It is realized those conditions are a constant menace to the other part of the population, unaware, as a rule, of conditions they do not actually see.

Savannah proudly assumes the title of "beautiful." By this it means Bull street, the broad avenues with their gorgeous trees and central grass plats, the small squares in the old section, and the large territory in the southern part of the city on which attractive homes have been built, with all the evidences of care in lawns and shrubbery, and with trees that in thirty years or more have assumed magnificent growth and are truly the pride of the city. Even with the improvements that have been made through the slum

## Housing- Georgia

clearance projects of recent years it can be said without exaggeration that one-fourth, at least, of Savannah is hopelessly a disgrace to the city.

There are large areas in which many thousands of people are herded, living under conditions that reflect sadly on the inability of the community to realize how thousands of Savannahians pass their lives, and on the failure of our people, based on ignorance of the actual state of affairs, to unite in a movement that should, in a very few years, sweep away the festering slums that have grown up in the last forty to fifty years.

Savannah needs redemption as much as any other city from intolerable living surroundings for thousands of its permanent population.

It needs an awakening of its people, outside of those living in the slums, to a realization of the intolerable conditions that have been allowed to grow up, decade after decade, through the absence of sanitary laws governing dwellings.

The municipal government itself is to blame for not having long ago put proper sanitary housing laws on its books. As it has been, there has been no restraint on the number of houses that could be crowded into any given area, no compulsion as to conditions as to light and air; no proper requirements as to water and sanitary arrangements.

What has been done in recent years in the direction of bettering the conditions under which probably 25,000 of the negro population live has been but a modest step forward.

When one finds six houses with a common yard in the rear, with a water pipe at each end and two toilet closets to serve the occupants of the entire six houses, one gets a little evidence of what Savannah needs in the shape of better provisions for the negroes who constitute so great a part of the necessary working population.

When one sees the squalor under which thousands live, one wonders why such conditions were allowed to develop, why they exist now, and why they are going to be allowed to continue indefinitely unless there is an aroused public opinion that demands the elimination of slum areas and the provision of decent housing for the army of human beings who now inhabit houses that should have been condemned long ago, or their owners forced to check their deterioration and give more adequate sanitary facilities.

Experience in the past has shown that Savannah cannot expect to secure the removal of the thousands of worn-out, disease-breeding tenements that now infest large sections unless it is brought about through the co-operation of the federal government.

The old Yamacraw slum area—and one shudders to recall what it was—would still be a festering sore, and an offense to the eyes of all entering the city, had it not been for the Housing Authority of Savannah, in co-operation with the National Housing Authority of the United States and the municipal government of Savannah, providing one of the finest slum clearance projects that the country has seen.

What was done in that area, leading to the creation of the Yamacraw Village of today, can be duplicated in other sections of the city if the people of Savannah are thoroughly aroused as to the conditions which

exist in several large districts where the state of housing and the environment of thousands is no better, or perhaps even worse, than it was in the old Yamacraw section some years ago.

If every right thinking man and woman in Savannah could be taken through some of the congested slum areas I have no doubt the reaction would be such there could be no legitimate or sustained opposition to new slum clearance projects—whether they are called slum clearance projects or low-housing projects, does not matter.

The trouble is that most of the people who love Savannah, who have a delight in its beauty, a new hope for its progress along the lines that makes life satisfactory to all, have never seen its slum areas. They do not know that they exist, and would probably resent being told that such large areas of their beloved city are a hopeless disgrace to Savannah and a menace to the well being of all.

Views have been taken illustrating the general character of the Savannah slum areas. These illustrations convey some idea of the general situation and may create in the public mind a consciousness of the public responsibility to sustain the municipality and the Savannah Housing Authority and other agencies in their prospective plans.

Given a healthy public sentiment, a program can be promulgated and carried through covering three to five years after the war, that will eradicate the vast mass of the housing of which these illustrations are the types.

The committee appointed to consider slum clearance and low-cost housing, representing the city, the Industrial Committee, the Housing Authority, the Savannah Real Estate Board, the Chamber of Commerce, labor, and city officials in an advisory capacity, will meet this afternoon for the purpose of organization and for a general discussion of existing conditions.

A small subcommittee should be appointed to survey the various areas which need attention, determine which areas should have first consideration, and then proceed in co-operation with the Savannah Housing Authority and the National Housing Authority in the necessary legal and financial measures to begin the cleaning up of the slums.

National Administrator Philip Klutznick of the United States Housing Authority, and District Director John P. Broome, on their recent visit to Savannah, saw enough of Savannah's slums to indicate very plainly their opinion that Savannah should make surveys immediately, and prepare to submit to the National Housing Authority opinions as to the areas from which the present buildings should be eliminated and proper sanitary housing provided.

Taxpayers in Savannah will not be called upon for financial assistance in such projects. The municipality will naturally do as it did in the Yamacraw project, provide the engineering and see that proper sewerage and water facilities are provided so that the sanitary conditions will be at par.

At the same time, while the removal of existing slums is being considered, the municipal government should begin a study of proper sanitary housing laws, benefited by what has been done elsewhere, in order to prevent the creation again of new slum areas.

If there had been proper sanitary

housing laws in the past much of the slums that exist today would not be the disgrace they are to Savannah. Without enforced sanitary housing laws another generation would face again the necessity of removing new slum areas.

If Savannah is to be the city we all hope it will be in its growth in commerce, in industry, in trade, in population, in wealth, in beauty, in all the things that make life worth living, its future demands that all of its people shall have decent sanitary housing and that disgraceful, hovel-like, so-called dwellings, crowded together as they now are, should not be tolerated. They should be gradually eliminated and their re-establishment forbidden and prevented by law.

The condition under which over 10,000 people are herded together in one square mile, in houses that are rapidly deteriorating into hovels, should not, and must not, be allowed to remain a fixed status of Savannah life. It is a condition that has lasted altogether too long. It is a condition that an aroused public sentiment could and should sweep away.

## New Housing Project

### Refused By Negroes *Montgomery Ad.*

COLUMBUS, GA., Aug. 4.—(P)—Forty negro families living in a tent city have refused to move into a new housing project for negroes, Brown Nicholson, Columbus housing authority executive, said tonight.

J. A. Willman, county sanitary engineer, ordered the tent city removed by Sept. 1 on grounds that it is unsanitary.

Nicholson said the negroes were a "type who don't care anything about sanitation, and who don't care where they live."

He also said they rent the tents for \$3 a month "and it would cost them from \$12 to \$15 more a month in the housing project."

None of the negroes could be reached tonight for comment.



## NEW HOMES FAIL TO SOLVE GEORGIA HOUSING PROBLEM



Approximately forty Negro families, living in a tent colony at Columbus for many years, have refused to move into a dwelling project because it was built across town, away from their former "neighborhood."



They like the idea of these modern facilities but will continue to pay \$3 a month where they are. Health authorities say they will tear down the "tent city" Sept. 1.

Associated Press Wirephotos

NEW YORK, N. Y.  
SUN

Circ. D. 277,172

AUG 6 - 1945

## TENT DWELLERS SCORN HOUSES

### Georgia Negro Evictees Unwilling to Shift.

Columbus, Ga., Aug. 6 (A. P.). —A squalid tent colony of Negroes is to be removed here September 1 as a wealth menace, but the forty families have refused the offer of low-cost public housing.

The Negroes were uprooted last fall when construction started on a \$900,000 low-cost housing unit for Negroes about six blocks from downtown Columbus. Their shanties had to be torn down. The Negro families moved over to an adjacent lot, and put up tents. They pay only \$3.50 a month for tent space.

Now the 160-unit dwelling is almost completed, but the Negroes can't move in. The project is for essential workers only, and only a very few of the tent dwellers are essential workers.

The housing authority offered them quarters in another low-cost Negro housing project about twelve blocks away. Here the rents run from \$10 to \$25 a month.

#### Prefer Old Site.

But the Negroes say they don't want to move there, they want to move into the project where their old shanties used to stand.

"All the families here in the tent city lived over there for years," explained Will Battle, a tent dweller. "It's our home. We're country type Negroes, not town Negroes."

Before the housing project was started, he said, they paid \$8, \$10 and \$11 rent. He expressed the belief that most of the tent dwellers could pay the rent in the new project, from \$22 to \$26 a month, utilities furnished.

The 16x16-foot tent hovels have no sanitary facilities. A double bed takes up most of the space. The tent city is just across the street from two of the city's best patronized night clubs.

Brown Nicholson, an official of the Columbus Housing Authority, said he'd offered the Negroes

quarters because they were being evicted September 1, but there was nothing else he could do.

"They're a type who don't care about sanitation and don't care where they live," he said.



# Racial Property Covenants Rapped

Memphis, Tenn.

Private Capital Required.

CHICAGO — (AP) — The Metropolitan Housing council here went on record last week as opposing anti-Negro restrictive covenants.

Headed by Fred Kramer, prominent white realtor, the council recommended that such property agreements against Negroes be abolished on the ground they are a barrier to good housing for all Chicagoans. A policy was adopted by the housing organization against anti-Negro restrictive covenants which clarified its stand:

1. "The council believes that existing covenants based on race, creed, or color, which in practice prevent or interfere with the development of an adequate housing program for the city of Chicago should be abolished.

2. "The council condemns the creation and extension of such racial restrictive covenants."

The Metropolitan Housing council also endorsed "large scale slum clearance and reclamation projects" and urged that new housing be made available through private enterprise and municipal authorities. Any general program for the housing of minority groups should comprise "taking steps now to open new on-restricted areas to the occupancy of Negroes and other minority groups," the council observed.

NEGROES URGED

TO INVEST IN

HOME BUILDING

Chicago, Ill.

## Urban League Told of Housing Need.

Recommendation that Negroes use their own funds for immediate relief from poor housing conditions was made by two speakers yesterday at the Chicago Urban League's annual conference on race relations.

"Chicago is the second wealthiest Negro city in the world, but to date Negro wealth and the resources of Negro financial institutions have not been made readily available for the construction of new Negro housing," said William E. Divers, regional representative of the national housing agency. 1-20-45

H. Evert Kincaid, executive director of the Chicago Plan commission, said that rebuilding of blighted areas, which ultimately will provide modern dwellings for Negroes, will have to be done "fundamentally" with private capital, including resources of the Negroes themselves. The part of government agencies, he said, would be "sympathetic assistance." 1-20-45

Miss Elizabeth Wood, executive secretary of the Chicago housing authority, said that if Chicago's Negro population was distributed to a desirable density there would be a surplus of 87,000 families. She said a great need was for more land where Negroes may live.

242,000 Units Needed.

Kincaid said the plan commission estimates the need of 242,000 dwelling units in the 22 square miles of blighted area in Chicago. He said it would take 20 years for demolition and construction; that meanwhile new locations for Negroes must be found. X-20-45

The conference was the first of three. Next Friday, the topic will be employment, and Feb. 2 social aspects of race relations will be discussed. The conference meets in Central Y. M. C. A., 19 S. La Salle St.

## Negro Buys Home; White Tenants Send Death Note

Chicago, Ill.

A crudely scrawled death threat, believed to have been mailed by disgruntled white tenants, was received Tuesday by Mrs. Rachel Carter, 4110 State street, who recently purchased a building at 4137 Drexel boulevard. 6-23-45

Signed by the "tenants in the building," the note warned Mrs. Carter "you will get what those niggers got on Wentworth avenue last week."

The badly written letter read: This is serious your life is in danger. If you insist on Trying to live or buy at 4137 Drexel Blvd you must die. Keep out stay out don't try to buy or live on Drexel Blvd we

## Housing Illinois

really mean business and we are not playing with you

"Whites Only"

"If you must go against our will you must die."

"You will get what those niggers got on wentworth ave last week."

From the Tenants in Bldg."

"P. S. If the police was not guarding this Bldg we would have destroyed the nigger tenants in Block a long time ago."

FBI Gets Note

The note will be turned over to the 5th District police and the FBI for investigation, Mrs. Carter said. However Capt. Ray Crane of Wash Avenue station told the Chicago Defender he has not yet seen Mrs. Carter nor the letter.

Mrs. Carter, owner of a rooming house at 41st and State street, contracted to purchase the building on Drexel Blvd. on June 8. When she inspected the place, a white music teacher now living there asked her address, said Mrs. Carter. The following night she received the threatening letter by special delivery. 6-23-45

Homes Attacked

Drexel Blvd. has been the scene of serious attacks on Negroes who have moved eastward to find homes. The home of Rev. Theodore H. Dabney 4135 Drexel Blvd., was fired by arsonists a short time ago. Another building at 4111 Drexel was wrecked by vandals before the Negro woman who was purchasing the place was able to complete the transaction.

Police have been detailed to guard these buildings.

It is believed that disgruntled tenants who resent having to move from the building sent the letter to Mrs. Carter.

"But that letter doesn't excite me," she declared. "I see no rea-

Promises Protection

Meanwhile, Police Commissioner Allman promised 12 civic and religious leaders who conferred with him Saturday, "You are going to get protection. There is no question of the right of Negro people to move wherever they please," he added. "They have the same rights as others." 6-23-45

Warning that continued outbreaks of violence will lead to serious racial conflicts, Rev. Joseph M. Evans, pastor of the Metropolitan Community church, declared, "If these incidents continue, somebody's going to lose his head."

"We are doing our best to encourage peaceful and harmonious relations between the races, but we are afraid something we would all be ashamed of will occur unless your men provide adequate protection," he told the police commissioner.

## WHITE BACK ARMY STAND IN WAC FIGHT

Chicago Defender 7-7-45

White leaders on Lily-white Hyde Park this week blasted the Hyde Park association for its protest against the housing of Negro WACs in the community.

Charging that the associations, which asked Secretary of War Stimson to oust 55 WACs from barracks near Gardiner General hospital, did not represent all the members, civic and business leaders here wired the Army to stand pat in its decision.

Meanwhile a storm of protest at the fierce fight waged by white realtors to push the WACs out of the community reached a peak here when white businessmen charged that the association acted without sanction.

Harry Schwimmer, owner of an appliance store in the district, declared that the association had misrepresented the views of white merchants in the area and said he was in "full sympathy" with the army's decision.

"As mothers, fathers, wives and sweethearts," declared a message sent to Stimson by the Hyde Park branch of the Independent Voters of Illinois, "we want to see the men who have been wounded in this war receive all the attention which is due them. 7-7-45

Not Representative

"We cannot see how any group can stand in the way of these young women who have offered their greatly needed services," the message continued.

Charging that "the blind opposition which has been registered does not represent the true feeling of the Hyde Park community," the IVI said, "we wish to offer you our whole hearted support for your policy in placing Negro WACs in Gardiner General hospital."

The Jewish People's Fraternal Order, wired the War Department on June 22 that "The Hyde Park Lodge of the Jewish People's Fraternal Order stand whole heartedly behind the War Department on your fine stand in housing Negro WACs wherever they will be of most service...we protest the un-American stand of some Hyde Park property owners."

"I have talked to most of the merchants in this vicinity," said Jerry Hirschberg, radio store owner. "None of them are against the Negro WACs coming into the community and none knew what was going on against them."

Earlier some 250 white Hyde Parkers met at the First Unitarian church under the sponsorship of the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination and passed a resolution condemning the action of the Jim Crow association.

Sends Protest

Chaired by Dr. Homer A. Jack,



# Chicago Studies Negro Housing

P.M. New York  
Special Correspondence

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—The Chicago conference of home front unity, this city's effort to create a board of social health without discrimination, reported yesterday to the City Hall.

It told the City Council that living conditions in the South Side Negro section have become so overcrowded that a vacant area of five square miles is needed immediately to house the excess population adequately.

10-31-45  
The conference was called by the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations and a group of 100 civic organizations.

Dr. Metz Lochard, editor-in-chief of the Chicago *Defender*, Negro newspaper, recommended that the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations be made a permanent part of the city government.

The Housing Commission warned that "so long as the housing offered to Filipinos, Negroes, Mexicans is hazardous to life and limb, overcrowded, and underserved, such housing will remain the No. 1 breeding ground for racial disunity, tensions, and even violence." 10-31-45

The Health and Welfare Commission recommended the immediate addition of 2400 beds for tuberculosis patients in Chicago and declared that the city's health program for pre-school and school children is "very inadequate."

The Employment Commission urged Mayor Kelly to call a city wide conference of management and labor "to plan for joint action to assure equal opportunity to all workers in Chicago."



# White Realtor Take Up Fight Against Anti-Negro Covenants

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — The Metropolitan Housing council here went on record last week as opposing anti-Negro restrictive covenants.

Headed by Fred Kramer, prominent white realtor, the council recommended that such racial property agreements against Negroes be abolished on the ground they are a barrier to good housing for all Chicagoans. A policy was adopted by the housing organization against anti-Negro restrictive covenants which clarified its stand:

1. "The council believes that existing covenants based on race, creed, or color, which in practice prevent or interfere with the development of an adequate housing program for the city of Chicago should be abolished.

2. "The council also condemns the creation and extension of such racial restrictive covenants."

The Metropolitan Housing council also endorsed "large scale slum clearance and reclamation projects" and urged that new housing be made available through private enterprise and municipal authorities.

These homes, the council pointed out, should be located and designed to meet the requirements of the market and urged that rentals and selling prices be kept within the reach of the income bracket of minority groups.

Any general program for the housing of minority groups should comprise "taking steps now to open new en-restricted areas to the occupancy of Negroes and other minority groups," the council observed.

"It is important to keep these new areas open to all racial groups in the population so that any of these groups can expand in the future without encountering the opposition of other groups which have interest in adjacent neighborhoods," the council said.

## 'Unholy 3' Fight Wacs In 'Black Ghetto' Plot

Beaten in their battle to drive 55 WACs out of Hyde Park, the millionaire-backed Oakland-Kenwood Association returned this week to its grim fight to pack 350,000 people into a black ghetto.

When they tackled the WACs they stepped out of their class. But three white Northern crusaders of this super Jim Crow Association base their 20-year success on the fact that they "grew up with Chicago Negroes."

One is plump, Attorney Philip R. Toomin, new president of the association, born in the Humboldt Park district, who swivels around in his chair on the 17th floor of the Chicago Stock Exchange building and says:

"Property owners have a right to restrict their property against Jews, Negroes, Catholics or any one they want to."

**Draft Board Worker**

Then former president, Charles L. Leindecker, re-employment chairman of Selective Service Board 88, sitting in the lobby of his Tudor-Ellis hotel at 43rd and Drexel, says:

"If darkies come over here there's going to be a riot. In a riot your people always get the worst of it."

Later, German-born Oscar R. Boenicke, realtor, who in 1926 helped organize the first Southside restrictive covenant drive against Negroes a few years after he had become a citizen, lit a pipe in his office at 903 East 47th street and advised:

"Negroes should make use of restrictive covenants to keep out white hoodlums," preferably the Jewish people, he indicated.

**Strongest in City**

This Oakland-Kenwood association, most active among Chicago's 75 anti-Negro property owners' groups, is an offspring of the Kenwood association which spurred race riots at the end of World War I. Its wealthy white church, business and civic leaders claim Millionaire Bachelor Newton C. Farr as their guiding light.

When Boenicke, treasurer of the association, first heard that 55 Ne-

gro WACs were quartered in Burnham Park near a "wholly white" community he "drove out of his way to look at the shacks."

"We wanted the Negro WACs out because, well, they'd ruin property values," says Boenicke who believes they should have been placed in Washington Park "because that's all-Negro."

**Met Robert Taylor**

Operating a number of apartment buildings in the Negro community, Boenicke said he "naturally" would never sell or rent an apartment to Negroes in the Hyde Park district. He's rated as the most liberal anti-Negro in the association, however. He flinches at the use of the word "nigger."

Boenicke thinks the South's treatment of Negroes is "unChristian, undemocratic and not generous." He recalled his first contact with the Southerners and thought their "nigger" was distasteful.

"Some time ago I taught a course in real estate management at the University of Chicago. I had about 60 students from all over the country."

"We went over to the Rosenwald apartments and the manager, Robert R. Taylor, took us around and explained how it was operated."

"One Southern woman pulled me aside and amazed, said, 'Why, that nigger Taylor really knows what he's talking about,' I was shocked," he said.

Boenicke, frustrated in his plans to prevent Negro WACs serving white patients at the convalescent hospital, was recently a patient of the Negro dermatologist, Dr. T. K. Lawless.

**Against Inter-marriage**

He would not mind living next door to Dr. Lawless, "But there's always this. If he moved here he might bring his friends." Rather than hazard this, he thought it better to keep all Negroes out.

Boenicke does not worry about inter-marriage because "I don't think the Good Lord intended for Negroes and whites to marry. If he had he would not have made you a Negro and me a white man—would he?"

"I've got many fine friends

among the Negro race," he said. "But if I heard of one marrying a white woman," he hacked down his hand like an ax. "I'd cut them off like that."

He said Dr. T. K. Lawless, whom he admires very much, is a bachelor. "But even if he married a white woman," he'd let the ax fall.

Past president of the Hyde Park Kiwanis club, in which he "believes there are no Negro members in the country," Boenicke says he favors a Fair Employment Practices Committee and "has always had a Negro on my payroll." Not as clerks or secretaries, but for "what use I have for them," either as janitor or maid.

**Hates Embree**

Nothing enrages this restrictive-covenanter more than white realtors who sell property to Negroes in a restricted area. "These scum," he said, "should be the ones the hoodlums attack."

Peaceful white property owners who refuse to sign anti-Negro agreements, Boenicke refers to as "conscientious objectors."

Others, like Edwin R. Embree, chairman of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, who lives in the heart of the restricted community, he regards as either traitors or hypocrites.

"If a Negro moved next door to Embree," he snorts, "he'd move out in the morning. I'd stick alongside a Negro family longer than Embree would."

**Awaits Invasion**

One of the first organizers of the association, Boenicke says, "We didn't start out as a restrictive covenant group. We were interested only in improving the community. Later we naturally went into restrictive agreements to protect ourselves."

He said he could understand "why Negroes want to invade Hyde Park" but he also thought that they should understand why he wants to keep them out.

But when "the invasion" comes, Boenicke, who owns large parcels of property in Hyde Park, will accept what he terms the "inevitable."

"When it breaks," he says, "you can bet I'll get the finest tenants in

the Negro race. I'll be ready for them."

In his musty, dog-eared hotel, the association's ex-president, Leindecker, the image of a Jay Jackson cartoon, said he would never accept any but white guests.

**Not From Dixie**

"Hell no, I'm not from the stix," he snapped when asked if he had a Dixie background. "I was born right over there on 31st and Wentworth. Hell, I grew up with the boys."

Recently returned from Springfield where he lobbied against a bill to outlaw restrictive covenants, Leindecker says he can name practically every prominent Chicago Negro during the past 40 years.

A personal friend of the late Robert S. Abbott, founder of the Defender, Leindecker said he would "fight until the end" to keep Negroes out of his community.

"Ninety-five percent of you Negroes are strictly on the legit," he says, "but it's that five percent that we don't want." Neither does he want himself compared to "those dumb crackers in the South."

He once "knew the Defender people" and could reason with them. "But that new crew they got over there. New type of thinking, they — they want everything in a g---d-- hurry."

**Tangled With Defender**

The only criticism Leindecker has of the association's idol, Newton C. Farr, is that he "went out on a limb and got tangled up with the Defender. They raked him over the coals." He suddenly thought, "What do you want to interview me for? To write something derogatory?"

Chairman of the Oakland Red Cross unit, in addition to being chief watchdog for the association, he said, "I've never been in the Defender," as if he had escaped a terrible fate.

Leindecker, a close friend of Alderman Oscar DePriest, explained how to beat bills outlawing restrictive covenants in the legislature by "sizing up the Negro representatives facing you and finding the one you can reason with."

He said he had been afraid Negro



representatives in Springfield would maneuver the white politicians into indefensible positions on the restrictive covenant bill. Rep. Charles Jenkins, he said, was "cunning" and Rep. Corneal Davis "is educated and has that religious stuff."

Liendecker, too, becomes enraged at the thought of white citizens who fight against anti-Negro housing agreements.

#### Takes Jack

"Take this Jew — Jack," he said referring to Dr. Benjamin Jack, militant head of the Council Against Race Discrimination, which had organized a Hyde Park meeting in protest of the association's action against the WACs.

Asked about A. J. McFaul, ex-Chicago Tribune reporter who owns and publishes the association's publicity papers, the Outlook and the Hyde Park Herald, he describes him as a "heavy-weight" who belonged in "the big league."

"He's got that Tribune background," whispered Liendecker.

In his hall-like office at 1313 East 55th street, the Heavyweight said that he is certain printing the anti-WACs report of the association represented the "community's feelings."

#### Fear Boy Friends

Born in Minnesota but bred in Chicago, McFaul said that he did not believe "publishing the association's restrictive covenant appeals" had anything to do with race tension.

He thought the main objections to the Negro WACs was the possibility that they would have "colored boy friends calling on them." He indicated that the association felt some absent-minded Negro might take home a white WAC instead of a colored one.

"I believe in the use of restrictive covenants as stop-gaps," said the editor of the 65-year-old weekly which roused this community to a fever pitch over the WAC issue.

However, he said there was absolutely no parallel between the race policy of his association and the race policy of a fascist state.

"Altogether different," said McFaul. "In a totalitarian state we could not sit here and argue—one of us would be liquidated."

#### About Liquidation

"In Germany they would have liquidated you. In Russia they'd probably liquidate me and the association."

He said the association was "changing its tactics" and not advertising for restrictive covenants. Hereafter they will emphasize a campaign to "make Oakland beautiful;" the assumption being that the community cannot be beautiful unless it is kept lily-white.

Idea for the new "make Oakland beautiful" covenant came from President Toomin, Illinois' leading authority on restrictive agreements.

Toomin, too, has a wide range of friends among Negroes, most

valuable being Horace Cayton of the Parkway Community center and Arna Bontemps, author.

Mild-mannered until faced with the fight to keep Negroes out of "my community" Toomin, admits that his wife, daughter of a Southern plantation owner "who knows a lot about Negroes," is more liberal than he.

Designer of the association's new streamlined "court proof" covenants, Toomin said that he "studied restrictive agreements for months" before drafting a non-racial restriction to cover the Farr-built George Washington Carver homes for Negroes at 37th and Michigan.

"Restrictions against races are proper and legal," he says. He wondered where Negroes "got the idea that they had the right to live anywhere they want to."

#### Republic, Not Democracy

He said there was no such provisions in the constitution.

"There are restrictions against Jews in clubs, hotels, resorts and they're perfectly correct and legal," Toomin states.

Asked if he thought Negroes had gotten their "mistaken notion" about their "right to live anywhere without restrictions" because of the war against fascism, Toomin snaps,

"This war is not being fought to make the world safe for democracy. It was fought to prevent the collapse of Great Britain and stop the expanding dynamics of Nazism."

He said he wanted to correct any notions Negroes had that this country was a "democracy."

"This is not a democracy — it's a Republic," says Toomin. "A democracy would be too unwieldy."

## NAACP to Fight

## Bans on Property

## Legal Strategy Mapped

## at Chicago Conference

## TO OPPOSE J.C. LAWS

## Program of Education

## Planned by Experts

## CHICAGO—Plans to destroy restrictive covenants throughout the country were outlined during a two-day conference called by the NAACP legal committee at the Sherman Hotel here, July 9-10.

Following a comprehensive review of pending cases on restrictive covenants on the first day, the group mapped out legal strategy aimed at winning a favorable decision from the U. S. Supreme Court on such covenants.

The group, which consisted of 24 lawyers, several housing experts and NAACP officials, also took note of urban redevelopment

legislation, as well as city planning laws which have been proposed in several State Legislatures.

#### To Fight Legal Endorsement

"We considered amendments to those laws and problems of their administration in order to prevent them from being used to extend residential segregation," said Dr. William H. Hastie of Washington, who presided over the conference.

A guest of the conference, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, director of community services for the American Council on Race Relations here, discussed the deleterious effect of housing bans on health, crime and racial tensions.

Other consultants presented the problem of present and post-war difficulties in securing adequate housing for colored persons as a result of the endorsement of residential segregation by Federal public housing agencies.

#### Plan for Education of Public

The conference members also discussed plans for a broad program of public education stressing the evils and harm of racial restrictive covenants to both colored and white persons and the danger to the country's social and economic structure.

Speakers at a dinner on July 9, presided over by Judge Charles E. Toney of New York City, acting chairman of the NAACP board of directors, were Dr. Hastie, Oscar Brown, president of the Chicago branch; Walter White, executive secretary, and Loren Miller of Los Angeles.

Others present at the conference were:

Thurgood Marshall, special counsel who arranged the conference; Edward Dudley and Andrew Weinberger, both of New York City; Charles H. Houston, Washington; Spottswood W. Robinson, Richmond; Theodore Spaulding, Philadelphia; Theodore Berry, Cincinnati; A. T. Walden, Atlanta;

Judge Herman E. Moore, Sidney Brown, Irving Mollison, Earl B. Dickerson, A. C. MacNeal, Eugene Goertz, Loring B. Moore, Sidney Jones and Jesse Mann, all of Chicago; David Grant and George Vaughn, St. Louis; Willis N. Graves and Francis Dent, Detroit, and Maceo Littlejohn, St. Paul.



# Hit 'Meeting' on *Daily Worker* Negro Tenants

*7-30-45*  
BALTIMORE, July 29.—A meeting to protest "encroachment of Negro families in solid white neighborhoods" was held at the Fulton Ave. Baptist Church, according to the *Baltimore Sun*. The meeting was condemned by the Communist Political Association of Maryland and the District of Columbia as "fascist-motivated" and "a disgrace." The *Sun* said the meeting, "latest in a series," was sending a delegation to Mayor McKeldin.

Al Lannon, president of the CPA, sent a letter to the Mayor declaring that actions taken at the meeting "constituted a threat to a large minority here in Baltimore." Such actions, Lannon said, "could easily provoke an actual outbreak against the Negroes of Baltimore in the spirit of the Ku Klux Klan."



80a-1945

## Whites Aroused Over Project Site Detroit Tribune

A militant group of about 500 white citizens residing in the Southwest Detroit area met Tuesday evening in St. Andrew's and St. Benedict's school hall, 2400 Beatrice street, mounted a protest campaign against the recommendation of Charles Edgecomb, of the Detroit Housing Commission, to erect a 1,000-unit housing project for Negroes in that section.

The area includes about six square miles and extends North from Outer drive to the Rouge river and the Dearborn line, between Melvindale on the West and River Rouge and Ecorse on the East. 3-3-45

Although there are a number of colored people already residing in this general area, whites in the vicinity are bitterly opposed to the building of the proposed Negro housing units.

Those attending the protest meeting Tuesday voted unanimously to be present at the hearing before the Detroit common council on March 9 at 9 p. m. also to hold a mass meeting Thursday, March 8, at St. Andrew's and St. Benedict's school hall to complete organizational details and strategy.

It is reported that many letters are being sent to the members of the Detroit common council, urging them to vote against the plan to build the Negro housing units in the Oakwood district of the city. 3-3-45

The arguments advanced by the protesting whites are summed up in the following statements voiced at Tuesday's meeting by Louis J. Borolo. He is quoted as follows:

"We maintain that the Negro has every moral and legal right to housing and all the other elements of human well-being possessed by white men. But we also maintain that having settled here, put our life savings into our homes and paid taxes for many years for the development of this area, we have established a prior right to its enjoyment." 3-3-45

Housing accommodations for Negroes in Metropolitan Detroit are miserably limited. The Detroit Housing commission has on file thousands of applications from Negro defense workers seeking homes, which cannot be filled because of the lack of available housing units.

## 170 Acres Taken for Negro Units

### Court Signs Order as Protest Mounts

The Ford Motor Co. bitterly criticized the Federal Public Housing Administration Monday for its acquisition of 170 acres of land belonging to the company. The land is to be used for constructing 1,410 temporary Negro housing units.

An order giving FPHA immediate possession of the land, which lies in Ecorse Township adjacent to the Veteran's Hospital, was signed Monday by Federal Judge Ernest A. O'Brien.

GEORGE SCHERMER, a area representative of the FPHA, said the project would cost approximately \$3,500,000. He said it would complete the assignments of temporary war housing for the Detroit area.

Commenting on the Federal Court order, Ford company officials said:

"We regard this as a high-handed attempt of the FPHA to use the war effort as a means of putting through at the taxpayers' expense, a housing project which is not needed in the war effort and has no connection with it.

"THE GOVERNMENT representatives did not exercise common courtesy in pushing through this land grab. There is no reason why they should not have informed some Ford official in advance of the action. 5-15-45

"IN THEIR HASTE they didn't check the title to the land very closely. Mr. Ford does not own the land. It was transferred to the Ford Motor Co. by him several months ago. A thorough check of the facts would have revealed this."

(In the agency's court action, Henry Ford was listed as one of the owners of the property. Others listed were Henry Thomas, Fred Tyre and the Sophia Smith estate.)

"Paragraph two of their (FPHA) petition to the court to acquire the land states in part: 'An acute shortage of housing exists or imminends which would impede national

## Housing- Michigan

defense activities and that such housing will not be provided by private capital when needed."

"The property involved is located between the Rouge and Willow Run plants of the Ford Co. Unless we have been badly misinformed, the bomber plant is going to close not later than August and, under Government cutbacks, we are laying people off daily at the Rouge plant.

"The FPHA is the same alphabetical bureau that wanted to spend millions of dollars on a bomber city near Willow Run. There were visions of 20,000 houses, hospitals, shopping centers and other community buildings.

"The Ford Motor Co. protested and an investigation by the Truman Committee stopped that. A similar investigation of this new housing proposal would result, we are sure, in a similar result.

"THE SAME VISIONARIES who participated in the bomber city dream also are involved in this one. Perhaps the real purposes of the project is retaliation because we once stopped waste of the taxpayers' money."

Schermer said the next step in the proceedings would be to condemn the property through the courts.

He said the first units would be ready for occupancy in about 120 days and the entire project completed within eight months. He declared the law provided for the project to be torn down within two years after the termination of the war unless officials agreed it should be continued.

THE NEW HOUSING project will be located in an area bounded by Oakwood, Southfield, Outer Drive and the Industrial Expressway. It is planned to contain a school and a housing center. It will be comprised of family dwellings of from one to four bedrooms. 5-15-45

DETROIT, MICH.

NEWS

Cir. D. 340,022 — S. 404,142

MAY 28 1945

## Negro Homes Sample Seen

### Dearborn Officials See Muskegon Project

Effect upon the Muskegon and Muskegon Heights area of a large Negro housing project built there in 1943 by the Federal Public Housing Authority was investigated Friday by Mayor Orville L. Hubbard, of Dearborn; three Dearborn councilmen and a member of the Dearborn school board.

Dearborn is fighting a project planned for Ecorse Township, adjoining Dearborn.

Variations in circumstances, however, made the study of doubtful value. Muskegon, with large foundries, had a prewar Negro population. The Fair View Homes were built between two Negro colonies in Muskegon Heights.

There are no Negroes living in Dearborn or Melvindale, the two communities nearest the site of the proposed project.

Relations between white and Negro prewar populations in the Muskegon area were much more harmonious than in the Detroit area. Opposition to the Muskegon Heights project was less intense.

Councilmen Joseph W. Schaefer and Ray Parker, who talked to residents of white neighborhoods nearest the Fair View Homes, reported conflicting stories about effects on property values.

Patrick J. Doyle, Dearborn councilman and State Representative, said he was impressed with the relative racial harmony in the Muskegon area but was unchanged in his opposition to the Ecorse Township project.

"Muskegon war industries had a great need for these Negro workers," Doyle said.

"I am far from satisfied that such need exists in the Detroit area. Then, too, the project did not change the character of the neighborhood as the FPHA proposes to do in our locality."

DETROIT, MICH.

NEWS

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## Civil Rights Rally Indorses Housing

A resolution favoring construction of the proposed 1,400-unit project in Ecorse Township, intended to relieve the shortage of housing for Negroes in the Detroit area, was adopted Sunday at a housing conference sponsored by the Civil Rights Federation in the Maccabees Building.

The conference was attended by 400 persons representing about 200 civic, church and labor organizations.

Two other resolutions condemned opposition to the project and emphasized the need for better housing. A fourth resolution authorized the appointment of a 20-member committee for the purpose of designating a smaller group as executive committee to review the various slum-clearance proposals.

Speakers at the meeting included Dr. Bruce H. Douglas, Detroit health commissioner, and John F. Ballenger, police commissioner. They asserted good housing is in the public interest.

George Schermer, director of the Mayor's Interracial Committee, spoke of the housing situation and what the various interested organizations are accomplishing.



# Detroit Housing Project Ruling Fought As Menace To All Minorities In U. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—  
Appeal of one of the most significant adverse decisions affecting the rights of Negroes since the Dred Scott decision in 1857 has run into complications, according to reports current here. It involves the ruling of Wayne County Circuit Judge Thomas F. Maher that the Hamtramck (Mich.) Housing Commission is within its rights when building an exclusively "white project" and vaguely promising to do the same for Negroes sometime in the uncertain future.

The appeal complications arise from the fact that the group of lawyers and organizations who handled the original case have not assured the NAACP that it may have full control of the appeal if it enters the case.

Reports here are to the effect that the NAACP feels it could not do justice to the case if it must also become involved in a factional squabble.

It has been learned too, by NNPA, that much material which would have been helpful in the original case and available to the public through the National Housing Agency and affiliated agencies, was not sought.

The case is significant not only to Hamtramck, Detroit and Michigan, but to Negroes and liberty-

loving people throughout the country.



# 5,000 WHITES STORM DETROIT CITY HALL TO PROTEST NEGRO HOUSING PROJECT IN OAKWOOD

*Black Dispatch*  
*Oklahoma City, Okla.*  
*3-24-45*  
*80a*

**Retail Stores Close Doors For Day to Permit  
Employees to Join Crowd**

## MAYOR JEFFRIES BEHIND SCENE

DETROIT.—(ANP)—Nearly 5,000 white citizens gave a clear demonstration of just how American democracy works in this "land of the free" when they jammed themselves into the common council chambers, overflowed the corridors and crowded the steps of the city hall here Friday in mass protest against the proposed building of a housing project for

Negroes in the Oakwood section of this city. The much needed project had the endorsement and recommendation of the local housing commission, the Victory council and the Citizens housing and planning commission. This proposal was just one among a great number which after having been carefully surveyed and presented to the council, was rejected.

Many stores and business places in the Oakwood district closed their doors Friday in order to allow their employees time off along with others to swell the protesting mob. And while the crowd was orderly it took both the police and firemen to disperse them from the hallways for the sake of safety.

Negro leaders had previously advised of the inexpediency of retaliating in numbers, consequently there were only a few on hand.

As the housing situation grows more and more acute, the health and welfare of the community endangered, racial tension more intensified, the farther away from the solving of the problem the local authorities seem to get.

It all goes back to the long drawn out controversy as to what to do about Negro housing. Knowing as the authorities do that tens of thousands of people have come into the city in the past two years and that no adequate provisions have been made for them, the housing commission has long since abandoned the senseless, undemocratic idea of Mayor Edward J.

The NAACP, the Citizen's committee and other organizations are marshalling their forces in preparation to fight to the bitter end.

Jeffries and the council on racial characteristics in neighborhoods. There seems to be no section of the city with land enough for a large housing unit where some whites do not already live.

The commission has stood steadfast in its demands that something be done now. Supporting the commission in this stand were: Alvin Morris, moderator of the Presbyterian of Detroit, the Rev. Benjamin Bush minister Westminster Presbyterian church; the Rev. Tracy Pullman, Church of Our Fathers; James H. Watkins, chairman of the mayor's interracial committee and Mrs. Christine Dekord of the League of Women Voters— all white.

Those opposing the project were supported by the South Detroit Community league and the Oakwood Blue Jackets Athletic club. Their chief spokesman was Louis J. Barole. According to one high in the councils of the Negro Citizens league, which is leading the fight as it did in the Jojourner Truth episode, the hand of Mayor Jeffries can be seen ~~soversive~~ moving stealthily behind this subversive element as another election is in the offing and Jeffries was elected on a racial issue of the same type.



# Negroes Face Housing Crisis

*Detroit Free Press*  
BY HAL CURTIS  
Free Press Staff Writer

A RECENT PROPERTY survey made in Detroit disclosed that more Negroes were living in unsafe, insanitary or overcrowded dwellings than live under satisfactory conditions.

More than 50 per cent of all dwellings occupied by Negroes, the survey showed, are substandard, while only 14 per cent of white dwellings are substandard.

This is one reason that the problem of Negro housing in Detroit has grown so acute since the beginning of World War II.

EVER SINCE 1910 the rate of growth of the Negro population has been greater than the rate of growth of the white population.

Census figures disclose that in 1910 Detroit had a Negro population of 5,741; in 1920 this had grown to 40,838; in 1930 to 122,066, and in 1940 to 149,119. The Citizens' Housing and Planning Council estimates that at the end of 1944 there were 212,000 Negro residents in Detroit.

These Negroes, who for the most part came to Detroit to help man industrial plants, have found individually and in groups great obstacles to the solution of their housing problem.

BESIDES THE MARGINAL economic status which places many of them in a disadvantageous position in buying shelter, it is a matter of customary practice to limit the areas in which Negroes may live.

Restrictive covenants prevent their rental of homes and purchase of land or houses particularly in new subdivided areas.

There are relatively few subdivisions in Detroit in which they can build new homes under FHA insurance.

The inevitable result of this situation is that Negroes must either pay excessive rentals for overcrowded quarters newly acquired for Negro occupancy, or they must live in dilapidated areas.

*Detroit Free Press*

"A SERIOUS HOUSING crisis exists in the Metropolitan Detroit area and the housing shortage is recognized by everyone who has attempted to locate living quarters during the last several months," said Edward Connor, Executive Director of the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council.

"The shortage is particularly acute for Negroes.

"The facts are brought out by the recent report of the United States Census Bureau, following its vacancy survey of the Detroit area, which disclosed an alarmingly low vacancy rate of 1 per cent in dwellings available for whites, with no vacancies for Negroes.

"THE SHORTAGE IS further shown," Connor continued, "in the reports of the Detroit Housing Commission.

One shows, for example, 14,466 total new Negro applications for war housing from November, 1943, to November, 1944, with only 1,731 of these being housed through either public housing or conversions.

The 12,735 not served have been forced to jam into already overcrowded facilities."

Connor declared that the health menace resulting from this overcrowding and the unsanitary living arrangements, the resulting loss in efficiency by thousands of war workers, and the growing tensions arising out of the situation are creating an increasing handicap to vital war production.

A RECENT SURVEY made by the Citizens' Council brought to light the following pertinent facts:

1—That within the Detroit Metropolitan area there are 16 sites suitable for Negro housing, all of which meet local policy in regard to not disturbing the racial compositions of neighborhoods.

2—That these 16 sites would accommodate 4,700 houses.

3—That the two best sites are at the foot of Lumley Ave.

and in the neighborhood of Sojourner Truth.

In the same survey a poll of the large membership of the Council showed Negro housing and resulting racial tensions to be the No. 1 problem of Metropolitan Detroit.

MORE THAN 300 additional organizations, including the Detroit Citizens' League and the Junior Chamber of Commerce, agreed that Negro housing is Detroit's first problem and that it cuts across every civic problem in the area, including war production.

## Builder of Negro Homes Product of War Times

The housing situation in Detroit is not a single problem. The grave situation which the city faces is made up of many problems, and this series of articles was designed to set these forth clearly and factually. No attempt has been made to draw final conclusions.

In an effort to provide light without heat the Free Press presented the whole picture so that Detroiters may consider it in its entirety.

BY JAMES M. HASWELL

Free Press Staff Writer

The war and the housing shortage have produced one new thing in Detroit—a species of speculative builder who specializes in building homes for Negroes.

Under the normal operation of the segregation system, Negroes rarely buy new construction. Their opportunities are limited to buying up old residence areas in the wake of departing white occupants.

The war has brought rationed housing, however, and under rationed housing a portion of new construction has been allocated to Negro occupancy.



Haswell  
3-20-45

THE FHA HAS made special efforts to forward this process. It has encouraged builders to canvass neighborhoods to seek out possible sites for Negro construction, with the result that several thousand such sites have been uncovered.

Raymond M. Foley, FHA administrator, reports that financing for private construction for Negroes has been found, and that a number of builders have been and are engaged in home construction. There has even been created a Negro construction company, which is making a modest beginning with a hopeful eye on the postwar market.

THE ANNOUNCED determina-

THE DESIRED average price for a home was under \$6,000. Only 11 per cent wanted more than two bedrooms. More important requirements were to be close to churches, schools, transportation, markets and shops, theaters, bowling alleys, social centers and to be close to work.

The average family of five had a 1939 income of \$113 a month and 1944 income of \$445. Only 39 per cent expected brick or masonry-constructed houses.

THE EXPERIENCE with the Brewster and Parkside public housing developments in Detroit contributes to the new readiness to build for Negroes.

Charles F. Edgecomb, director of the Detroit Housing Commission, says that Negroes in the Brewster homes care for the property as well or better than do the white tenants of the Parkside homes, judging by the repairs that become necessary.

Inability of Negroes in the past to find financing for construction contributed greatly to the shantytown appearance of such settlements as sprang up at Eight Mile and Wyoming, Foley says.

NEGROES PAID extremely high prices for the land, but found when they came to build that no one was interested in financing them.

So the first settlers copied the tactics of white homemakers. They built garages and small temporary houses. The depression froze the process of improvement.

A recent survey of the potential Negro market for newly built homes has caused many to change their minds about Negroes as financial risks. The survey covered 41 cities, and consisted of 9,200 interviews with Negroes living in congested, blighted areas.

It found 39 per cent of them paying \$50 to \$60 a month rent, 16.1 per cent living in furnished rooms at \$12.50 to \$18 a week for three rooms, 7.9 per cent paying more than \$60 a month, 15.3 per cent between \$35 and \$50, 21.7 having shelter rent under \$35 a month.

FORTY-THREE per cent would like to buy new houses, preferably in a good Negro neighborhood.

Sixty-five per cent of these families had savings or War Bonds of more than \$1,000, 22 per cent owned War Bonds or savings of more than \$500, 13 per cent had less than \$500 in assets.

A majority owned automobiles and radios, 36 per cent owned mechanical refrigerators, 21 per cent had fairly new furniture, 18 per cent would purchase additional furniture, 61 per cent had small installments to pay on furniture.



# Negro Housing Question Aired--Without Results

## Official Stalling and Buck-Passing Goes On 'n On; Outlook's Not Bright

By ROBERT CRUMP

1-6-45

DETROIT (ANP)—The eternal question, "What about Negro housing in this community?" still goes around in a vicious circle by the stalling buck-passing city officials. The Interracial committee makes recommendations and hands them to the housing commission who in turn passes it on to Mayor Edward Jeffries, the mayor hands it to the common council, which body lays it back into the lap of the housing authorities. The net result is that the 60 odd thousands of Negro war workers who have come to the city in the past year still have no homes.

For a long time federal funds for many instances to two and three Negro housing here have been lying times its original value. The secret fallow waiting for a decision to be of the whole thing is that white in-made with regards to building homes interests are simply unloading property for war workers. Surveys have been made, sites selected then rejected for one reason or another and, seemingly, no one in authority is interested in the very acute housing problem as it faces Negroes here.

### Means Segregated Living

The one thing which seems to be the stumbling block in the way of some kind of a decision at this time has to do with the rescinding of a common council edict made some time ago which dealt with the preservation of "racial character" in Detroit neighborhoods—which in plain words means that Negroes are to live only in neighborhoods where Negroes live.

The local housing commission has expressed a willingness to forego the council's wishes and get on with the housing providing it can get the sanction of the mayor who steadfastly refuses to make a decision, Jeffries saying in effect, "it's up to the council, I make no recommendation."

The crux of the whole matter was brought out in a statement by a prominent business man who has made a study of the situation and is in a position to know whereof he speaks. This informant believes that the housing question has been hanging fire for a long time and will continue to do so because of certain pressure groups such as the Land-owners' association, real estate boards and one big banking institution that has considerable property holdings. These people, it is believed, will continue to forestall the building of additional homes until such time as they can sell all types of run down property to an all too gullible Negro buying public.

### Time To Buy—Wages High

Through high pressure salesmanship the Negro is made to believe that this is the time to buy, because wages are high. As a result thousands of Negroes have been buying homes out from under each other leaving those who are unable to buy with no place to go. Many have poured their life's savings into property which has been boosted in

Not only is the laborer being taken in but the intelligentsia as well. Many of the big mansions on some of the one time exclusive boulevards with 14 to 20 rooms are being sold to Negroes who cannot even furnish them off. These are homes which it formerly took a coterie of servants to keep up. All of this is due in a measure to the fact that no decent homes in decent neighborhoods are being provided for an overcrowded population.

### Sell At Inflated Rate

Negro real estate dealers have a hand in it also. While selling property is their business and they must of necessity make a living, they must know that their people are being taken for the proverbial "ride." Most all Negro real estate dealers get the listing from the big bank then go out and sell homes at the inflated rate. One case in point was brought out which can be multiplied by hundreds. It has to do with a house on Alger Ave., which three years ago could have been purchased for \$3,100 with a down payment of \$300. Three months ago this same house sold for \$6,500 with \$1,500 as the down payment. This of course gives the lie to oft repeated statement that property depreciates in value under Negro occupancy.

Some effort, of course, has been made with Negro capital through the organizing of the Better Homes association and the Watson Realty & Finance Co. Lands have been acquired but the building of new homes now is out of the question and the association has also run into trouble when purchasing homes for resale in neighborhoods where Negroes are not wanted. Under the present situation there seems to be no relief in sight until after the war.

# Numerous Pacts Bar Negro Residents

## No Substantial Migration Possible Under Present Restriction Patterns

BY JAMES M. HASWELL

Free Press Staff Writer

Nobody knows how many hundreds of restrictive covenants and neighborhood agreements there are in Detroit binding property owners not to permit Negro occupancy. The number has increased greatly in response to the Negro search for new residence areas. There are said to be 150 associations of property owners promoting these agreements.

The City Plan Commission is preparing a map of the city showing the area under restrictive covenant; but the work is not completed.



Haswell

SECTIONS of the city which have been studied show a conglomeration of restricted and nonrestricted areas. The areas are so mixed that no substantial Negro migration is possible.

The impulse to preserve one's neighborhood against any sudden change in the character of occupancy is a common one. The second impulse, when something happens that breaks down the barriers against change, is to withdraw. This sometimes causes panic sales of homes, and financial loss to property owners.

JOSEPH M. BUFFA, who has been active in promoting neighborhood associations and restrictive agreements in northeast Detroit, says the

No. 3  
of a  
Series

agreements should properly serve to facilitate the orderly transfer of blocks of property from white occupancy to Negro under conditions which would prevent panicky flight and financial loss. He also thinks that departing residents should receive damages.

There is more to this resistance than mere fear of dollars and cents loss, however. The recent hearing granted residents of the Oakwood district by the Common Council furnishes an example.

Oakwood is the southwest end of Detroit, popularly called the 'Dog's Hind Leg.' It is a semi-settled area at the end of the Fort

fighting for their country, to know that we are letting the Negroes in here to pickup where the boys left off?

"Why not wait until our boys return from over there and see what they have to say? I am protesting in their behalf and mine. Please don't allow the colored race to come here to Oakwood to live."

THE HISTORY of the expansion of segregated districts contains instances in which syndicates and companies have been formed to transfer properties in blocs.

The common form of expansion is by infiltration, then voluntary withdrawal of the older occupants.

Government machinery for orderly, mass relocation of displaced populations does not seem to have been used.

car line. It was a village until 1923. Approximately 16,000 people live there; 1,500 are away at war.

OAKWOOD has seven churches, including two large Catholic churches. The residents are largely of Italian, English, Welsh and Scotch descent. There are no Southern whites. The people who live in Oakwood have no previous experience in living in or near Negro neighborhoods.

The housing Commission has reported that it can find no more sites for public housing for Negroes which conform to the Common Council's orders not to change the racial character of any neighborhood in locating emergency war housing.

It has further reported that Oakwood offers the most opportunity for changing a neighborhood to accommodate thousands of Negro families.

The protest from the Oakwood residents was practically unanimous. None at the Council hearing mentioned money.

"WE HAVE A prior claim on this area," said Louis Barolo, chief spokesman.

The letter below, from a second-generation American woman of Italian descent, sums up this attitude:

"I have been living in Oakwood all my life, which is 24 years. I was born here, went to school and made friends here. I grew to womanhood and married one of the boys from down the block. We've always planned on living here among all of our family and friends.

"Right now he's somewhere in the Pacific, dreaming of the day when he'll return to pick up where he left off.

"DO YOU THINK it will help his morale, or the morale of the other hundreds of boys from Oakwood who are also



# Cross Burned on N.J. Housing Site

**Baltimore, Md.**  
TRENTON, N.J.—A storm of protests from officials and promises of a complete investigation followed the burning of a six-foot cross at 10:30 Saturday night on the site of a proposed colored housing project in Hamilton township.

The cross stood less than 700 feet from St. Philip's Baptist Church, on the spot selected for the first of 250 buildings planned for the project. It was constructed of two-by-fours wrapped in kerosene-soaked burlap bags, and attracted over 150 persons.

James Kerney, publisher of the Trenton Times, and chairman of the Trenton Committee for Unity, said Sunday:

**ELIZABETH, N. J.**  
**JOURNAL**  
Circ. D. 34,799

**JUL 16 1945**

## Journal Letters From Readers

### Negro Housing Problem Facts.

Editor, Journal.—Your issue of July 11, carries an article under the caption, "Few Buy Homes on Speculation," which is a report made by the Elizabeth Board of Realtors.

In that report the question, "Is better housing for Negroes a pressing problem in your community?" is asked to which the reply of the Board is "No."

The report does not make clear in the use of the words "better housing" whether the reference is to quality or quantity.

If the former, the following fact is of tremendous importance and of great point.

The New Jersey Association of Housing Authorities in a study issued May 1, 1945 states that 8.85 per cent of all dwellings in Elizabeth are substandard. The vast majority of these would be located between Spring street and Front street. In this area lives at least 75 per cent of the Negro population. So, that of the 22 per cent substandard dwellings in the city, at least 70 per cent of them are occupied by Negro families.

Is it then the conclusion of the Board that dwellings with abominable plumbing, poor lighting, leaky roofs, unpainted exteriors, falling walls, damp cellars and cellars at all, broken steps, no central heating meet the standards or the approval of the board, so long as those dwellings are inhabited perforce by Negroes?

The National Association of Real

Estate Boards with which it may be assumed the Elizabeth Board of Realtors maintains a membership or an affiliation, issued on June 14, 1944, the results of a study it had made on the housing facilities for Negroes. The study covered 20,000 real estate boards and individual realtors in 46 states. The overwhelming conclusion was that the quality of houses for Negro families needed immediate improvement.

The study further showed that the economic level of many Negro families had now risen to the point where the investment of private capital in home construction both for rental and sale purposes for the Negro was no longer a great hazard. Indeed; everything pointed to a very safe investment.

This investigation does not specifically designate Elizabeth as one of the cities studied. Certain it is however that the situation here is unmistakably comparable to many which were investigated. In truth; in many aspects it is worse here.

The other possible interpretation of "better housing" is the quantity. On this score; the position of the Board is even more untenable than with respect to quality.

On October 25, 1944, this organization addressed a letter to every member of the Board of Realtors stating that it would be glad to make known

they could live in comfortable and hopeful environment?

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM M. ASHBY.

Executive Secretary,  
Urban League of Eastern  
Union County.

**NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.**  
**HOME NEWS**  
Circ. D. 20,502

**AUG 13 1945**

## HOUSING PROJECT WORK WILL START

### Ceremonies Marking Break- ing of Ground to Be Held Tomorrow

Ground breaking ceremonies for a Negro housing project on the corner of Lincoln Highway and Van Dyke avenue will be held tomorrow at 11 a. m. by members of the Housing Authority, Thomas Flynn, project manager, and Morgan R. Seiffert, project administrator. It was announced today.

John C. Frisch, D. Carl McCormick and Samuel D. Hoffman members of the Housing Authority, will be in charge of the ceremonies in the absence of Elmer B. Boyd, chairman, and Mrs. Edwin B. Carpenter, vice-chairman.

Mayor Chester Paulus and city commissioners, Dr. H. Solomon Hill, pastor of the Mount Zion A.M.E. Church, and Dr. E. Gaylord Howell will attend. Richard Moore and Richard Klein, project developers, will represent the FPHA.

A letter from Edward O. Roberts, acting assistant director for development, states that Edwin F. Manahan has been appointed project engineer to represent the FPHA.

Building will start tomorrow by the Progressive Builders, Inc., of Camden, contractors.

**NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.**  
**TIMES**

Cir. S. 16,513

**AUG 5 - 1945**

## Overcome City Objections on Negro Housing

### Structural Changes Will Be Made; Contract To Be Signed

Following a meeting of the New Brunswick Housing Authority held yesterday, Morgan R. Seiffert, administrator and counsel, announced that the structural objections against the Negro housing project on Somerset street and Van Dyke avenue, raised at a recent meeting of the city commission, have been fully met and disposed of, and that the contract to build would now be signed.

Building Inspector John F. Lynch stated at the meeting of the city commission that the revised plans for the 60-unit project did not comply with the state's tenement house laws. Answering that, Seiffert pointed out that such laws do not apply.

He displayed a letter received by the Authority from C. Raymond Swain, secretary of the state board of Tenement House Supervision, in which the secretary wrote concerning the project, "These buildings are non-tenement houses, and as such this board has no jurisdiction."

"However," Seiffert continued, "the members of the Authority are highly conscious of their responsibility, and they will not disregard, even if legally free to do so, any objection looking to the improvement of the project."

### Discusses Fire Hazard

Seiffert instanced fire hazard, which was said to be greater under the revised plans, because of the absence of fire walls between the dwellings.

"The Authority was assured by its architects, and believes, that the type of party wall provided for in the revised plans gives every reasonable safety against fire. But it was the consensus of opinion at the meeting today that the best possible protection should be given. Accordingly, fire walls of the most approved type will be restored to the plans."

This matter of fire protection was disposed of at the Authority's meeting yesterday. By resolution

unanimously adopted, Mrs. Edwin R. Carpenter was empowered to sign the contract for construction as the Authority's representative, "on condition that masonry fire walls be built between each four units of the project."

As to the objection that the exterior walls were to be of asbestos shingle, and not brick veneer as called for in the original plans, Seiffert pointed out that the difference was one of sightliness only, and not of safety or durability.

"The Authority is making every effort to have Washington lift the \$4,000 limit on the cost per dwelling unit," he declared. "If that can be done in time, the brick veneer walls, which are not more useful, but may be prettier to passersby, will be built."

"The Authority, trying to provide decent housing for our Negro citizens, is confronted by the fact that building costs have risen substantially since 1937, when Congress made the appropriation from which the money is coming."

He showed a letter received by the Authority from the Federal Public Housing Authority, dated July 21, 1945, answering a plea for more building money. The letter said in part:

"It is impossible to obtain an exception to the statutory limitations on the dwelling facility cost of the project. The Public Law 671, 76th Congress, Chapter 40, 3rd Session, under which the proposed project is being developed, does not alter the \$4,000 per unit limitation for cities under 500,000 population as imposed by the U. S. Housing Act of 1937 as amended."

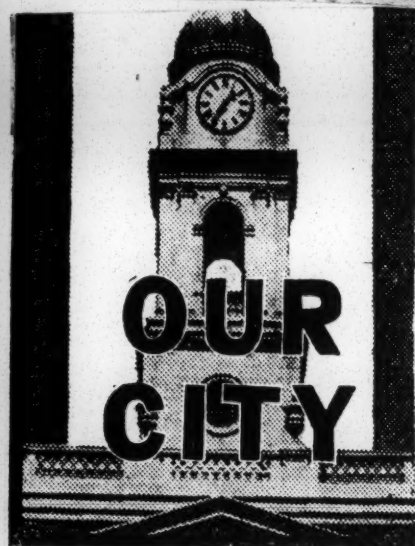
"Moreover, no act of legislature exists which gives the power to waive or alter the \$4,000 limitation. Therefore, if the project is to be constructed now, there is no alternative but to proceed at once on the basis of awarding a contract to the lowest bidder."

As to the objections to certain features of the plumbing called for by the revised plans, based chiefly on the size of certain sewer pipes, Architect Alexander Merchant Jr. said that these had been met by increasing pipe sizes in the revised plans. He stated that the plans would comply "in every particular with the plumbing code of the city," and pointed out that the change to cheaper construction had been made at the dictation of the FPHA.

The members and architects expressed appreciation of the assurance given by the City Commissioners that they would cooperate fully with the Authority to get the project under way.



AUG 9 - 1945



## City Problems Of Traffic, Taxes And Housing

During the absence of the editor, who is on his vacation, Fred E. Long, member of City Council from the Second Ward, has consented to furnish the material for this column. His subject this week is City problems.

One of the most pressing problems at this time is the housing situation of the Negro population of the city. This is definitely the white man's problem and the city must do something to help solve it.

This issue has become prominent at this time because of returning veterans to this section. Soldiers, who have become accustomed to improved living conditions which include proper sanitary facilities, will not be content to return to housing provisions below standard of those they have had in the service.

Better housing facilities in either white or colored sections help to remove the conditions responsible for many of the social problems of the city.

It is up to our city to see that these conditions are alleviated.

## Negro Tenants Fight for Homes

CAMDEN.—Some 400 Negro residents of the Cheltenham Village Housing Project have swung into action to keep their homes as a low rent housing project. With the end of the war, they were faced with a loss of homes as well as jobs. Some 40 percent have been laid-off. But all were affected by the announcement that the Federal Government which erected these permanent dwellings was disposing of all war emergency housing projects. The tenants felt that sale to a private owner meant high rents. And with war jobs gone they needed lower rents than the \$27 to \$31 they had been paying.

### TENANTS MEET

So the tenants held a big mass meeting. Under leadership of the local PAC they are campaigning to get the city to take over the Village and run it as a low rent project. The Housing Authority has agreed to continue running it for the city as it has for the federal government. A Committee has been elected and is meeting with the Mayor. Included in the Committee are representatives of PAC, American Legion, the Communist Party, the YMCA, the Ministerial Alliance and other civic groups. The powerful trade union movement has been contacted and promised its support, including the CIO locals at RCA, Campbell Soup, and New York Ship. The campaign is also asking the whole community to get behind the Wanger-Ellender housing bill now before Congress.

## Both Sides Hit "Colored Only" Housing Plans

*The New York Amsterdam News*  
Units for 1,500,000

### War Workers to be Used For World War II Vets

*The New York Times*  
BY MELVIN B. JOHNSON

NEWARK, N. J.—A 1,500,000 Federal housing development here, originally planned for Negro war workers but which drew opposition from all sides, will now be used for returning war veterans of all races. This was the announcement made last Wednesday by the Newark Housing Authority in reference to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Homes now under construction in Chapel Street near the Passaic River.

The project will comprise 11 buildings and 275 apartments. In the city's only other project erected to meet war needs, Bradley Court,

owned by the Federal government, tenancy is restricted to whites.

Frank Wenrich, executive secretary of the authority, explained that Roosevelt Homes must be rented to veterans under an act passed last June by Congress requiring that in areas where acute shortage of housing exists, veterans and service-men's families are to have preference for renting of Federally owned housing.

The housing facilities for Negroes in this city is so acute that 14 families were said to be living in a condemned school building which, in the opinion of Leslie H. Jamouneau, white taxpayer, "is unfit for human habitation."

Unofficially, members of the Newark Housing Authority, feel that they are facing a difficult problem in alleviating the plight of Negroes, war veterans or civilians, because of the opposition in many sources to the allocation by the Federal government of funds for the relief of colored families only.

Several colored leaders of the city launched an attack on the housing body for restricting the development to colored war workers only, and white civic groups and manufacturers in the section where the project was to be erected voiced bitter opposition because of its location.

The controversy raged for several months, with the City Commission finally approving the project plans by a 3-2 vote.

The Roosevelt Homes project will not be completed until early Spring, Wenrich disclosed, though the official completion date in February 20. Material and labor shortages caused a delay in work on the development, Wenrich said.



80a-1945

## New Jersey Housing

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.  
HOME NEWS  
Circ. D. 20,502

AUG 15 1945

## CEREMONIES MARK BREAKING OF GROUND FOR HOMES



John C. Frisch, member New Brunswick Housing Authority, presenting to the Rev. Dr. H. Solomon Hill, pastor of Mt. Zion A. M. E. Church, the shovel used in the ceremonial ground-breaking yesterday for Negro housing project at Van Dyke avenue and Somerset street.

D. Carl McCormick, also of the Authority, is shown in foreground behind Frisch.

## Housing Project for Negroes To Be Constructed Speedily

Construction of the Negro housing project will proceed now with all possible speed, declared the several speakers at the ground-breaking ceremony held yesterday morning on the site, Somerset street and Van Dyke avenue. In attendance were members of the New Brunswick Housing Authority and of the Federal Public Housing Authority, city officials, and members of the Urban League.

"Let us get to work and lose not another day," urged Richard Moore, chief representative of the FPFA which is financing the 60 dwelling units to be erected under the supervision of the New Brunswick authority. Expressing the general feeling

of urgency, Mayor Chester W. Paulus said, "This housing is a war project, and we're beginning to build it on the very last day of the war. I'm sorry the plans do not call for the best type of construction, including brick veneer walls, but what is needed now is not criticism but cooperation, if we are to get our Negro citizens out of slum areas. The commissioners and I have co-operated and will continue to co-operate."

The Rev. Dr. H. Solomon Hill, pastor of Mt. Zion A. M. E. Church, called the project "Exhibit A" in a demonstration that my people are responsible and respectable citizens, and live as such when given the opportunity. Among us, as among white people, are a few who do not reflect

credit on their race. I call on the Housing Authority to see that such unworthy individuals do not obtain apartments in this project."

### Years of Work Preceded

The speakers were introduced by Morgan R. Seiffert, administrator of the New Brunswick authority, who called the project "the culmination of two years' work." He said that in the tract controlled by the authority were 21 acres, to which the city had engaged to bring water and sewerage, and that the city would pave Van Dyke avenue.

The project, now under construction by the general contractor, Progressive Builders, Inc., engineers and contractors of 505 Cooper street, Camden, consists of 60 dwelling units of one, two and three bedrooms each, and also a community house. The plans were prepared by Alexander Merchant & Son, Inc., architects of 1 Elm row, this city. The FPFA which is financing the project, is-

sued a "proceed order" effective yesterday, and requiring completion in 180 calendar days from date.

The actual construction is being supervised by Edwin Manahan, FPFA project engineer, who has directed the building of 8,000 FPFA-financed dwelling units in this state. Manahan is a registered architect and a member of the American Institute of Architects, New Jersey chapter. Further assuring soundness in construction, the New Brunswick authority's representative on the job is Thomas H. Flynn, project director, who is himself a builder and contractor of many years' experience.

The arrangement under which the project is now going forward is that it is to be financed and owned by the FPFA and administered by the New Brunswick authority subject to FPFA approval during the housing emergency. When the emergency passes, the FPFA is to sell the property at cost to the New Brunswick authority, which will continue it for Negroes in the low-income brackets.

### Many Obstacles Overcome

The plan to build adequate housing for Negroes in this city was initiated at a meeting of the New Brunswick authority held May 24, 1943, and has been prosecuted since against much discouragement and many obstacles.

The first site chosen was on Pine street. Yielding to protests the authority shifted the project to Van Dyke avenue, near Jersey avenue, and then, compelled to yield again to strenuous objections, the project was shifted to the recent site on Somerset street.

Matters were made more difficult by a steep rise in the cost of construction while the site was being debated. By the terms of the law under which the FPFA was to finance the project, the cost per dwelling unit was limited to \$4,000. That cost was seen to be too low, when the contractors' bids were opened last June, and the plans had to be redrawn to cheapen construction.

Members of the New Brunswick Housing Authority who fought the protracted battle for Negro housing in this city, in the face of some popular misapprehension of the difficulties, are: Elmer B. Boyd, chairman; Mrs. Edwin R. Carpenter, D. Carl McCormick, Samuel D. Hoffman, John C. Frisch. Dr. E. E. Agger is a member ex officio by governor's appointment. Counsel and administrator to the authority is Morgan R. Seiffert, Miss Anne Leslier is secretary, Miss Anne Olivier is project secretary, and Flynn is project director.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.  
HOME NEWS

Circ. D. 20,502

SEP 17 1945

## FOLLOW ORIGINAL PLAN ON HOUSING

### Arrangements Made to Provide Better Materials For Negro Homes

The Negro housing project, now under construction at Somerset street and Van Dyke avenue, will be built substantially in accordance with the original plans, it was indicated yesterday by John A. Kervick, director of the Federal Public Housing Authority for Region 2, including New Jersey.

Those plans called for brick exterior walls, slate roofs and plaster partitions. The superior types of building, now to be restored, were replaced by cheaper substitutes in the revised plans, so as to bring the cost per dwelling unit down to \$4,000, the limit permissible under the law, read literally. Approximately \$27,000 would have been saved, at some cost in quality.

"We have ordered the contractor, Progressive Builders, Inc., of Camden," said Kervick, "to build brick veneer walls, as called for by the original plans. We expect to make the other restorations also, when they are reached in the course of construction."

"We will expend the full \$27,000 that was tentatively saved," he declared, to a Daily Home News reporter and representative of the New Brunswick Housing Authority. "If that added sum is sufficient, the project will be built in all essentials as originally designed."

Kervick said there was a difference of opinion between the contractor and FPFA officials as to the cost of the better construction, but that the matter of price would be left to later negotiation, and the work itself should proceed forthwith.

The welcome decision to return to the better type of building followed several conferences, held during the last 10 days, between representatives of the New Brunswick Housing Authority and FPFA officials. The matter was urgent, admitting of no delay, as the contractor had already put in the "footings" for the walls, and was proceeding with the foundations.

Endeavoring to obtain added work. The Negro housing project, providing 60 dwelling units of one, two and three bedrooms each, is to be completed according to the contract early in February. Funds for the project, the New Brunswick Authority's administrator, Morgan R. Seiffert, visited Washington recently and conferred with head officials of the FPFA, also enlisting Congressman James C. Auchincloss in the



## START WORK TODAY ON HOUSING PROJECT



This two-story building, delineated from the plans, is one of six, each containing eight dwelling units of two and three bedrooms each, to be included in the Negro housing project now under construction at Van Dyke avenue and Somerset street, under supervision of New Brunswick Housing Authority. The one-story extension at either end is a one-bedroom unit, of which there will be 12, making 60 dwelling units in all. The architect is Alexander Merchant & Son, Inc., of 1 Elm Row. The general contractor is Progressive Builders, Inc., of Camden. Ground was broken this morning, beginning construction.

## GROUND BROKEN AT HOUSING SITE

60 Dwelling Units to Be  
Completed in 180 Days;  
Officials Attend

Ground was broken at 11 a. m. today for the Negro housing project, to be built at Somerset street and Van Dyke avenue, in the presence of members of the New Brunswick Housing Authority, city officials, and representatives of the Federal Public Housing Authority. Several members of the Urban League were also present.

D. Carl McCormick and John C. Frisch, of the New Brunswick authority, joined in the ceremonial raising of the first shovelful of earth, after which Frisch presented the shovel to

the Rev. Solomon Hill, Negro pastor, who has taken a leading part in bringing the project to realization.

Following the ceremony, and the brief talks given by Mayor Chester W. Paulus, Mr. Hill, Morgan R. Seiffert, administrator of the New Brunswick Authority, and Richard Moore of the FPHA, the bulldozer and truck of the contractor, Progressive Builders Inc. of Camden, roared into action, stripping the top soil from the site of the 60 dwelling units now in process of building.

The project, for which the 'proceed order' effective today has been issued by the FPHA, is to be complete and ready for occupancy in 180 calendar days from date.

Those present included: McCormick and Frisch, Moore and Edwin Manahan of the FPHA, Mayor Paulus, City Attorney Paul W. Ewing, Commissioners Harry W. Dwyer, Herbert D. Dailey, James T. Shine, Thomas

G. Radics, Tax Collector John L. Snitzler, Architect Alexander Merchant Jr., Al J. Bickmann, USES manager.

Others were: Seiffert, Thomas H. Flynn, project director, Anne Olivier, project secretary, Mr. Hill, Mrs. E. Gaylord Howell, the Rev. Jesse Lee, the Rev. S. E. Tillman and Mrs. William Riemay III.

## New Brunswick Keeps Faith With Negroes

New Brunswick has kept faith with its Negroes. This fact became assured Tuesday morning when ground was broken for the \$305,000 Negro housing project being built under the direction of the New Brunswick Housing Authority. As the contract for the development has already been awarded, construction on the 60-unit project started immediately and is expected to be completed within six months.

Negroes in this city, as in many other communities, have seldom received a fair deal, especially in housing. We have allowed them to be fleeced by excessive rents in neighborhoods which did not warrant them, or let them live in squalor. As the Newark Sunday Call stated this week, "building and health inspectors either regard the Negro's welfare as immaterial or take the view that, if present rookeries were condemned, the tenants would have to go elsewhere."

This is less the result of race prejudice than of indifference and mistaken leniency. Even when well-intentioned, these arguments are fallacious. Their effect is to make it easier for the Negro to remain where he is than to advance. The Negro should have equal economic rights for the community's sake and his own. That is why we regret that the excessive cost of the original plans have resulted in some changes which might still be restored if present efforts are successful. But no matter what the final outcome is, the fact that the project has actually started after more than two years of delay, proves to the Negroes in New Brunswick that its people were sincere. We can be assured that this evidence of good faith will be appreciated by the Negroes.

SEP 18 1945

## Selecting For Housing Project

The Negro housing development which is now under construction has dual significance; it is both a means of providing suitable housing for a part of our city's population and it is a monument to interracial understanding and amity here.

The project still lacks a name. The housing authority will welcome suggestions, which may for convenience be sent to this newspaper which will be glad to publish them. There have already been heard many fine suggestions and

influenced in their choice by the desires of the public. Send your suggestion in today.

many others should be forthcoming. Some feel that the name should be that of someone who has done much for the Negro, men such as Lincoln and Roosevelt. Others feel that the name should be that of a famous Negro who has advanced the cause of his race, Carver or Booker T. Washington or Robeson. The choice of a name, of course, rests with the members of the housing authority but they will welcome suggestions from the general public and will undoubtedly be



# Tenants, Without Heat, Water:

## Davis Seeks to Bar Evictions

10-17-45

Six families, ordered to vacate their apartments at 2213 Fifth Ave., Manhattan, soon to be torn down for a housing project, were faced with a double crisis, it became known yesterday. They renewed complaints originally made through Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., to the Department of Housing and Buildings and the Office of Price Administration, that hot water and heat had been shut off. They also denied the city's claim that a vacancy list had been submitted to them.

Davis, who is seeking to block eviction of the six families all of whom have children, was assured by the Department of Housing that the landlord would provide heat and hot water. He was also told that the tenants would be given lists of available apartments.

Yesterday the tenants reported to Davis that so far neither of the two assurances had been granted.

Mrs. Mamie Goodwin, one of the tenants, told the Daily Worker that the tenants were desperate. Of the original 11 families given eviction notices, five were living with friends and neighbors in packed, unlivable conditions. The remaining six families have been unable thus far to find even such make-shift accommodations.

Davis cited the plight of these tenants as an example of the need for his legislation, now before the City Council, concerning the housing crisis.

## Puerto Ricans Face Issue of Race in Apartment Hunt

By KAY KERBY

"We just haven't got any place to move to," is the familiar complaint of hundreds of families now occupying houses on the site of the proposed James Weldon Johnson housing project, 112th to 115th St., Park Ave., to Third Ave.

A Puerto Rican superintendent said that she and her large family were having a difficult time locating a new apartment because, "No one wants to take in the Spanish. They no want children or they no want something else."

Another family told of their trouble finding accommodations in a

convenient location because they are Negroes. They said there are many apartments vacant in the East Harlem area, but the landlords refuse to rent to "colored" people.

Other complaints centered around the high rent demanded by many of the landlords of new places and the lack of building services in others. They say that comparable housing is just not available in the quantity necessary at this time.

An estimated 982 families were affected by the order to vacate by November 10, and at the present, the New York State Housing Authority reports that about 120 of them have been relocated. The temporary agency set up in the office of Porter and Co., prepares listings of vacancies and refers the tenants to the available housing.

Several of the tenants complained that already their superintendents had permanently discontinued steam heat and hot water service on the grounds that "you're moving anyhow, what difference does it make?" One woman said that her only method for heating the apartment for her baby was with a gas stove. "We can't afford to pay the high gas bill, either," she said.

Porter and Co. denied these charges, saying that adequate heat for this time of year was being provided.

## INTER-RACIAL HOUSING PROPOSED AT PARLEY

Participants in two days of round table discussions of race problems at St. Mark's Methodist Church, 137th Street and Edgecombe Avenue, under auspices of the Interracial Fellowship of City Council, concerning the housing crisis.

start a cooperative housing project on an inter-racial basis. "Segregated housing is a number one national problem at the heart of our difficulties in race relations," Mrs. Allan Knight Chalmers, president of the fellowship, said, summarizing the findings. She said the executive committee would take up this and other problems suggested as soon as a committee had prepared a more complete report.

Other recommendations were that white ministers "speak out

courageously" against "unbrotherly practices"; that the fellowship name "a committee to visit the Real Estate Board to challenge their code of ethics and ask them to take steps to change their practices" and that "in the field of private housing we work for a policy of tenant selection based on ability to maintain good living standards rather than on race."

A cooperative housing project was proposed "as a demonstration of the practicability of whites and Negroes living together." Restrictive covenants in leases were condemned in one of yesterday afternoon's round-table groups, led by Prof. Arthur Swirth of Union Theological Seminary.

whether or not they were refused on account of race or nationality, whether or not the houses had violations, and where vacancies could be found; to get the cooperation of all organized groups, including churches, in the San Juan Hill district, and, finally, to organize a delegation, headed by Councilman Davis, for a visit to the Housing Authority.

The Councilman will return on Monday from his post-election vacation.

The meeting at which the committee was elected was held in the St. Cyprian Parish House, 175 W. 63 St. The Rev. H. C. Banks, minister, described the meeting as one of the biggest ever called on temporary housing for persons evicted in slum clearance.

"We want slum clearance, yes," declared Mrs. Sylvia Shoultz, 218 W. 63 St., "but the city must say what will happen to us while the

# 172 Negro Families Organize Face Slum Clearance Eviction

By EUGENE GORDON

The committee of 30, elected Thursday night by 172 Negro families facing eviction from the San Juan Hill district, mid-Manhattan, yesterday sent a delegation of three to confer with Councilman Benjamin J. Davis. **clearance is going on.**

The 172 families, embracing upward of 1,000 persons in all stages of health (or ill-health)—including aged, blind and crippled—have until Dec. 31 to move from the ancient tenements. The city is planning a housing development there.

San Juan Hill takes in, roughly, according to the New York City Planning Commission, the east-west area between Amsterdam Ave. and the Hudson and the south-north area between 60 and 69 Sts. Mrs. Viola Watson, 218 W. 63 St.; Mrs. Miriam Proctor, 20 W. 69 St.; and Cromwell Howard, 214 W. 63 St., the delegation, were instructed to ask the Councilman how to protect their rights—especially how to get an extension of six or more months while they sought other living quarters.

Miss Lou Faithful, Davis' secretary, advised the delegation in his absence to go ahead with their plans for a petition to the New York City Housing Authority, 122 W. 42 St., to continue their search for vacancies, listing such facts as

## NEGRO AND VETERAN TO AID HOUSING STUDY

Mayor-elect William O'Dwyer enlarged his emergency committee on housing yesterday by adding a Negro and a war veteran as members. This was done, it was explained, so that these two groups would receive additional consideration when the report was drawn up on the housing shortage before Dec. 17.

Added to the committee of nineteen, headed by Park Commissioner Robert Moses, were the names of Charles G. Bolte, chairman of the American Veterans Committee, 554 Madison Avenue, and Donelan Phillips, a Negro, president of the Consolidated Tenants League, 209 West 125th Street.

Attached at Mr. O'Dwyer's headquarters in the Hotel Commodore were jubilant over the reaction to the Mayor-elect's proposal for a definite program to handle the housing shortage before he takes office on Jan. 1. Of the nineteen persons invited to sit in on a study of the housing problem, twelve had already telegraphed acceptances as committee members. Several others were reported out of town. Mr. O'Dwyer's office does not expect any declinations.



# A Housing Campaign in Harlem--How it Began

*Daily Worker*  
By EUGENE GORDON  
New York, N.Y.  
"We can't make the world of tomorrow by hugging our children to our breasts and pushing the others away from us," said the chairman. 11-12-45

She was Mrs. Arthur Simmons, Negro mother of seven small children. Having pleaded for the common care of all children, she declared the first public meeting of the new organization open and called on the first speaker. But neither the first nor the second speaker's remarks were half so important as the occasion which formed the background.

Mrs. Simmons, whose soldier husband recently came back from the Pacific, struggles on the borderline of poverty in a railroad flat at 114 W. 134th St. Woodwork in the primitive kitchen and the plastering throughout the rest of the house are blackened with grime and age. This is not her fault, as such conditions are not the fault of most Harlem house-



**JAMES HUNTER**  
Junior Council Patrolman

wives. The fault lies in the house themselves.

## BREAKING DOWN MORAL

Thus some housewives grow careless and assume an "Oh, what's-the-use?" attitude. They toss garbage down the dumbwaiter shaft or out the back window into the areaway, "because they get tired of waiting for it to be collected." Their children become accustomed to going to bed and to school unwashed, because, if the plumbing isn't out of order, the hot-water spigot runs cold water

and the landlord does nothing but collect the rent.

These are Mrs. Simmons' facts, not mine. Having outlined the foregoing situation, Mrs. Simmons began to describe the organization and its aims. Its name, she said, was "Parents' Committee and Junior Council." It was organized a few months ago in her home. The meeting was held last Thursday at the Harlem Boys Club, 134th St. between Fifth and Lenox Ave. was the first public one.

Five hundred adults made up the Parents' Committee, she said. There were 64 boys and girls, all the way from seven to 17 years, or older, in the Junior Council.

## JUNIOR PATROL

Members of the Junior Council bashful but game, give brief addresses outlining their duties as officials. James Hunter was introduced as one of the boys who, dressed in a uniform with a white Sam Browne belt and an overseas cap, will patrol the neighborhood and preserve order among the kids and check on parents who threw garbage or other refuse from windows.

Little Miss Dolores Williams, "Lady President" of the Junior Council, pledged that branches would be organized throughout the five boroughs. Mrs. Simmons added that Parents' committees would go along, too, hand in hand.

Miss Audley Moore, speaking for Councilman Ben Davis, commended the initiative of the women and their children in this work. She declared that better housing in Harlem would help to eliminate many of the problems. If the boys and girls had better places in which to live and play, she explained, they would come into contact less often with brutal police. She cited the recent killing of 14-year-old Wilbert Cohen as a case in point.

# 'Where Will We Go?' Ask Tenants Facing Eviction

*Daily Worker* New York  
By MILDRED McADORY

They all ask the same question, "Where will we go?" 12-1-45

A few days ago tenants in the west midtown area were given eviction notices, effective Jan. 18. They move in, then build another," she said. Most of these people have lived in the community for years, some all their lives.

William S. Moody of 213 West 163 St., is 78 years old. He has lived in that community since 1912. He lives alone on an Old Age pension. When we asked him if he had looked for a place to move he said, "No, I don't know where to look, and I'm afraid of this weather. My health isn't so good."

## ASK QUESTIONS OF CITY

Mrs. Mary Johnson, of 210 West 163 St., said, "I have been home all this week because I'm sick. I'll only have Sunday to look for a place to move. I'm a railroad worker and work six days. Where will I look? People come here looking for a place to move from the Bronx and Harlem."

Before the war the people were moved out, the house was torn down, then came the war and houses were not built. They feel that if the City Housing Authority was really interested in the welfare of the people they would make every effort to solve the problem.

The people feel that houses should be built on the two vacant blocks that are there, and the tenants be permitted to move in, then tear down the houses they now live in.

"In times like these everybody should do all they can to solve the housing problem," said Mrs. Bella Brown, a tenant in 210 West 113 St. 12-1-45

"Something must be done. They could build houses, we could move into and that could be continued until all the houses were built and none of the people would have to worry about where to move. In middle of the winter, in this kind of weather, we have no place to move," she said.

Sixty-year-old Mrs. Rebecca Simmons, said, "I moved when the other houses were torn down, but that was before the war, and everybody was not looking for a place to live. Soldiers with children, and old people, it's just not fair. We voted for these people because they said

they would see that we got houses, they'll have to keep their word, or next time people will remember."

Mrs. Brown has lived in the community all her life. "They could build one section and let people move in, then build another," she said. 12-1-45

Mrs. Sophie Lyons, 67-year-old widow, has no relatives in the city, and has lived in the house four years. "I don't know where to look for a place to live, she said and the weather is so bad, we can't just move out like that. The housing people just don't care what happens to any of us."

Alexander Whittaker, young longshoreman, who has lived there about eight years, was born in the community and does not want to move.

"We have no place to go, he said, we have two children and one lives in the Bronx, the other in Long Island because we don't have enough room for them here. 12-1-45

"Even if we had a place to move it would take all the little money we have for the children's Christmas presents. They told us they were going to build on the vacant lots, and let us move in before they asked us to move out of these. If white people can't find places to live, then any one would know it is impossible for Negroes." 12-1-45

Every person contacted planned to attend the mass meeting at St. Cyprian's Temple, they all expressed the need to do something now.

## Housing Injustice

*New York Amsterdam News* New York, N.Y.

The reiterated announcement that the New York Housing Authority will keep the original "complexion" of neighborhoods in post-war housing projects is a resounding slap in the face of the most over-crowded communities in New York City. 12-1-45

The "complexion" rule is admittedly made to tighten the "black belt" ghetto housing rule that cramps the Negro into high piled layer-cake living where family is packed on top of family in space originally intended for one-fourth or one-fifth the number of inhabitants. To say Negroes can only live where Negroes now live is to apply as vicious a jim crow rule as ever hedged in a black community across the tracks, hemmed in by the city dump and the gas works.

Housing supposedly is being built to relieve the housing shortage. But the area of greatest congestion is condemned, because the population skin is black, to indecency and barrack living to protect the sacred color line.

And insult is piled on injury.

Veterans are supposed to have preference in all housing authority projects. That is: All Veterans except Negroes. The Negro veteran has to stay locked up in his housing prison as surely as in Balbo-land. Projects may take any white person who qualifies after white veterans are satisfied. But the black veteran continues his second-class citizenship in New York.

This rule is against the decency and standards of democracy that are embodied in the Civil Rights Laws and the State Committee Against Discrimination. It is bad enough to endure the prejudice of housing race covenants at the hands of private real estate interests. It is too much to have jim crowism enhanced into policy by the civil servants whose salaries are paid, in part, by the very people their racial arrogance seeks to degrade.

New York City must be free.

There must be no "Polish", "Jewish", "Italian", "Irish", "Protestant", "Catholic" or any other kind of "complexion" kept. 12-1-45

Mayor-elect O'Dwyer pledged himself to break the "black ghetto". A good place to begin will be with his Housing Authority. There is need for an administrative house-cleaning of all the policymaking personnel connected with this piece of fascistic racism in New York City.



# State Officials Take Up Ramapo Jim Crow Case

**They Get Complete  
Data on Second Instance  
In Rockland County**

**pm** A complete report on Rockland County's second case of mass Jim Crowism in two years was in the hands of State officials today.

The case, involving Jamaican Negro farm workers quartered at present in a house in Pomona, in Ramapo Township, near Nyack, was submitted to Gov. Dewey and Attorney General Nathaniel L. Goldstein by Jacob Wexler, attorney for the Rockland Growers Cooperative, Inc., and Dewey has turned it over to P. N. Hard, Director of the State Farm Manpower Service. Wexler expects later, if need be, to invoke the Ives-Quinn Fair Employment Practices Act.

The Ramapo Zoning Board of Appeals, dominated by wealthy land-owners, has slapped a \$50-a-day fine on the three co-op members who bought the house and adjoining acreage to provide quarters for the Jamaicans. The Board charges the zoning law is being violated. Wexler argues that the law does not apply to any property used directly or indirectly for farm activity.

## Supplies Fruit to City

The case is of interest to New York not only because of the Jim Crowism involved, but because the Rockland co-op supplies the city with about 200 tons of fresh fruit and vegetables daily during the Summer. Loss or serious curtailment of this supply, as is threatened unless the Zoning Board rescinds its action or is overridden, will make itself felt on New York's tables.

The \$50 fine climaxes a persistent effort by the Board to keep the Jamaicans out of Pomona. It started several months ago when the co-op began looking for quarters for the laborers. Because of a sudden influx of war workers and unexpected Summer residents, who pay \$700 to \$800 for a three-month season, no houses are available for rent.

In this situation, the three co-op members bought the house in Pomona. The Zoning Board refused to sanction its use on the ground

that it did not provide 10,000 square feet of space for every man to be housed there. The three co-op men then bought sufficient acreage adjoining to take care of this objection. But that didn't stop the Board.

## 'Protest' Meeting

On May 2, it held an unpublished "protest" meeting at which 40 of Pomona's 300-odd residents appeared to object to the Jamaicans' proximity. Twelve farmers, who had somehow heard of the meeting, also attended to voice their desperate need of help. They got nowhere.

Last year, the State Board of Education pinned Rockland's ears back for trying to segregate Negro children in an old ramshackle school and denying them admittance to a modern school building.

Because of this experience, the Zoning Board, officially, is not objecting to the Jamaicans because they are Negroes. But Jim Crow and anti-Negro sentiments were freely expressed at the "protest" meeting, and at least one leading Board member has threatened to sell his estate in Ramapo Township if the Jamaicans are permitted to stay.

The co-op imported Jamaicans last year when they were housed in another township near Camp Shanks. It is conceded that they behaved themselves admirably, and that the only "incident" of any kind arose when one worker got into a mild argument with his employer about wages.

## TOLEDO, O.

### BLADE

Cir. D. 167,963

JUN 26 1945

# Firm Abandons Plan To Build Negro Housing

**Restrictions of City  
Given as Reason For**

## Housing Failure of Project

Plans of the H. R. H. Construction Co., New York, to build 150 dwelling units for Negroes in North Toledo have been abandoned, Barney S. Romanoff, Toledo counsel for the firm, announced yesterday afternoon.

The New York operators feel that restrictions imposed on builders here are so severe that such a venture could not be entered into, he asserted.

Mr. Romanoff said a New York representative of the firm telephoned him to "forget all about everything."

## Streets Stumbling Block

Construction of streets and curbs, as specified by the city, was one of the stumbling blocks, according to Mr. Romanoff. He cited a city ordinance passed by Council in January while the North Toledo project, known as Maumee Homes, Inc., was being opposed by Point Place residents.

The ordinance provides that when Council is asked to accept privately built streets the thoroughfares must meet requirements set up by the director of public service.

In the case of Maumee Homes, John H. Jewhurst, service director, said the H. R. H. Co., submitted a proposed street plan which he and city engineers deemed insufficient. The firm intended building, he said, a six-inch macadam water-bound thoroughfare, without curbs.

## Curbing Recommended

He recommended to George N. Schoonmaker, city manager, that the builders also install a one-inch wearing surface and curbing to keep drainage water from eroding lawns in the proposed development.

Mr. Jewhurst explained that his action was not final and that his recommendation had to be acted on by Council before it became mandatory.

Council, he explained, has authority to accept or reject his recommendation. Mr. Jewhurst said he would have preferred the Maumee Homes sponsors let Council take action on the proposal before giving up the project.

Mr. Romanoff said that plans for the development had reached the stage where materials priorities had been granted and contractors were being lined up for initial work.

## NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

### MIRROR

Circ. D. 770,340 - S. 1,673,528

JUL 23 1945

# New Harlem Housing In Works, Mayor Reveals

Plans are under way for a \$7,584,000 housing project in Harlem just south of the Polo Grounds which will rent for not more than \$12.50 a room per month, Mayor LaGuardia announced yesterday in his weekly broadcast.

## NEW YORK, N. Y.

### POST

Cir. D. 182,292

SEP 25 1945

## Negro Veterans Suffer In Housing Shortage

Dear Editor: Didn't our Negro boys go into this war and fight and die to preserve the American way of life? Haven't they the right to homes and comfort as well as anyone else? If so, why is it that there are hundreds of them here in New York with families that want a place to live and can't get an apartment when there are hundreds of white families living right in the heart of Harlem next door to Negroes and hang out signs of vacant apartment 4 and 5 rooms to let. Yet a Negro can't move in the house in his own neighborhood.

THE WIFE OF A VETERAN.

"I hope to have it cinched and tied up so that no one who may come after me can interfere with it," he declared.

The Mayor said he will confer on Wednesday with the bank representatives and an official of the Federal Housing Administration.

LaGuardia's broadcast covered a little wider range than usual yesterday. He revealed himself as inventor of a portable fruit stand to be used in case of another greengrocer's strike, and discussed meat, street beggars and butter.

The Mayor said that plans for his fruit stand are in the hands of the Department of Public Works, which is ready to manufacture them in the event of another retailers' strike.

LaGuardia said that meat supplies have increased. He urged the city's wholesalers who lack ration points to come to him "if your hands are clean" and he would try to get them an OPA adjustment. He asserted that "the butter situation is licked" because 14,000,000 pounds more came into the city this week than during the corresponding week of last year. But he urged consumers to "use butter prudently."



JUL 24 1945

# Harlem War Heroes Come Home-- To Slums

## Housing for Harlem.

The Mayor's announcement of another housing project for Harlem, to be erected just south of the Polo Grounds, is of particular interest because so much has gone into construction or planning of low-rent housing for areas of large Negro population. What distinguishes the project just disclosed is that it will be built entirely by a group of savings banks, not by State funds of the New York City Housing Authority. It will provide space for more than 1,500 families, and cost about \$7,584,000. As the sponsors will observe provisions of the State's Urban Redevelopment Act, part of the site will be acquired by condemnation; tax exemption for a long period will be based on the value of the new buildings.

Public housing either built or proposed for Harlem and adjacent areas by the New York City Housing Authority already runs to more than \$30,000,000. Harlem River Houses, a PWA project finished in 1937, has 577 family units, and cost \$4,227,700. Amsterdam Houses on West End avenue when finished—demolition on the site was started in September, 1941—will have 1,024 family units, and cost \$7,000,000, provided from State funds. James Weldon Johnson Houses in East Harlem will hold 1,310 family units and cost \$9,974,000 in State funds. Abraham Lincoln Houses on Fifth avenue between East 132d and 135th streets will have 1,286 families, and cost \$8,836,000 in State funds.

## Blame Housing Authority For 500,000 in Slums

### Citizens' Council Charges Failure to Take Decisive Action

The Citizens' Housing Council of New York charges that the New York City Housing Authority has failed to take bold and decisive action in the present housing crisis in which 500,000 families are forced to live in slums and sub-standard dwellings.

In a public statement, the Council based its criticisms on the Authority's 10th annual report, issued last May, and its "experience with the Authority's operation over the past decade." The Council has recommended immediate construction of temporary housing units for thousands of families.

### Council's Demands

The Council demanded that the Authority make recommendations for surmounting the crisis and display the leadership expected of it by the citizens. The Authority has express powers under State law, the Council said, which "should be

deemed a mandate to take necessary action."

Chief among the Council's criticisms were the Authority's alleged failure to:

Point its plans to all citizens interested in slum clearance and low-rent housing rather than to "the banking community."

Plan for the care of families forced to move from slum-clearance sites.

Initiate long-range plans with private enterprise to eliminate slums.

Relate community planning to housing projects which "grow like isolated islands in a sea of slums."

Solve the problem of excessive land costs in slum areas.

### Praise Bias Policy

The Council praised highly the success of the Authority's non-discrimination policy, "under which decent homes have been provided where some 17,000 families live amicably together without regard to race, creed or color," and its "financial and managerial achievements."

Edmond Borgia Butler, Housing Authority Chairman, was unavailable for comment.

*The Worker New York, N.Y.*

East 103rd Street takes its democracy seriously. Inhabited by Negroes, Italians, Jews and Puerto Ricans, in the main, it has given a goodly quota to the fighting forces against fascism. Now this American street welcomes its fighters home. Home to the slums.

For many—if not all—of these returning heroes "home" is just a pallet on the floor. GI Joe from East 103rd Street might have dreamed of a luxurious room and meals in bed, of a cozy little apartment which he could pay for out of his meagre savings and the wages he thought he would draw. But unless he can pay from \$125 per month upward or was born into a family which, like the Astors, was in on the original real estate swindles, he's out of luck.

Even Army officers, as Mrs. Herbert L. Carlebach, chairman of the Housing Division of the Officers' Service Committee, will tell you, can't find homes below the \$125-a-month level.

But if one walks west on 103rd Street to Fifth Avenue the atmosphere changes. There are more vacant houses (usually boarded as the one shown in the picture) and much less patriotic spirit. No flags here. No honor scrolls. And no slums.

The returning GIs are not too worried about the patriotism of the rich, but they are wondering why the government was able to house several million new soldiers during the war emergency and can't house them in peace.

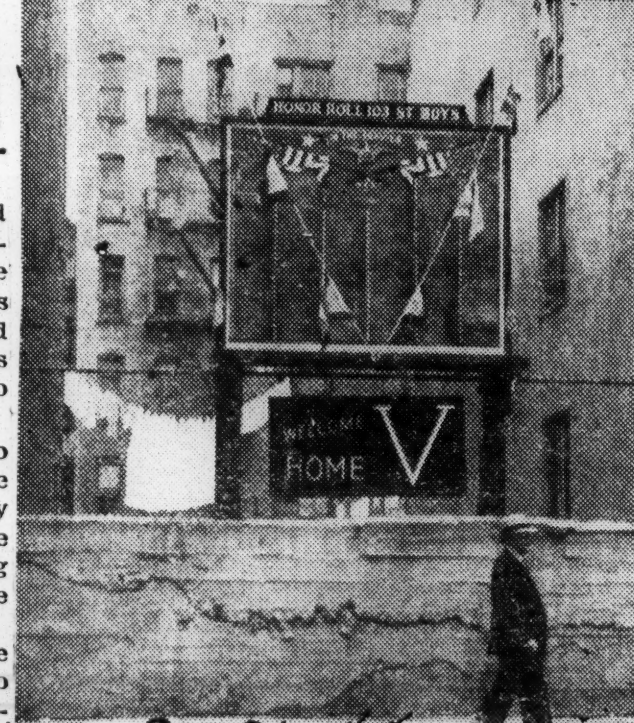
They are wondering why the Mayor's Rent Committee doesn't do something about the empty mansions.

They are wondering why a life could be conscripted to win a war when property can't be touched to unblock the way to peace.

Joe never thought he was going to come back home to heaven. He just wants a "break" for his efforts in bringing fascism to its knees. He wants a roof over his and his family's head. And he's tired of sleeping on the floor of a slum hovel in the shadow of an empty castle.

East 103d St. welcomes its boys back home. But attaining victory on the battle field has not given them a roof over their heads.

The owner of this empty mansion at 87th St. and Fifth Ave., placed a picket fence around it to keep away the curious. Blinds on the doors and windows are made of steel despite the critical metal shortage



9-30-45



JUN 20 1945

## Slums And Crime Go Hand In Hand

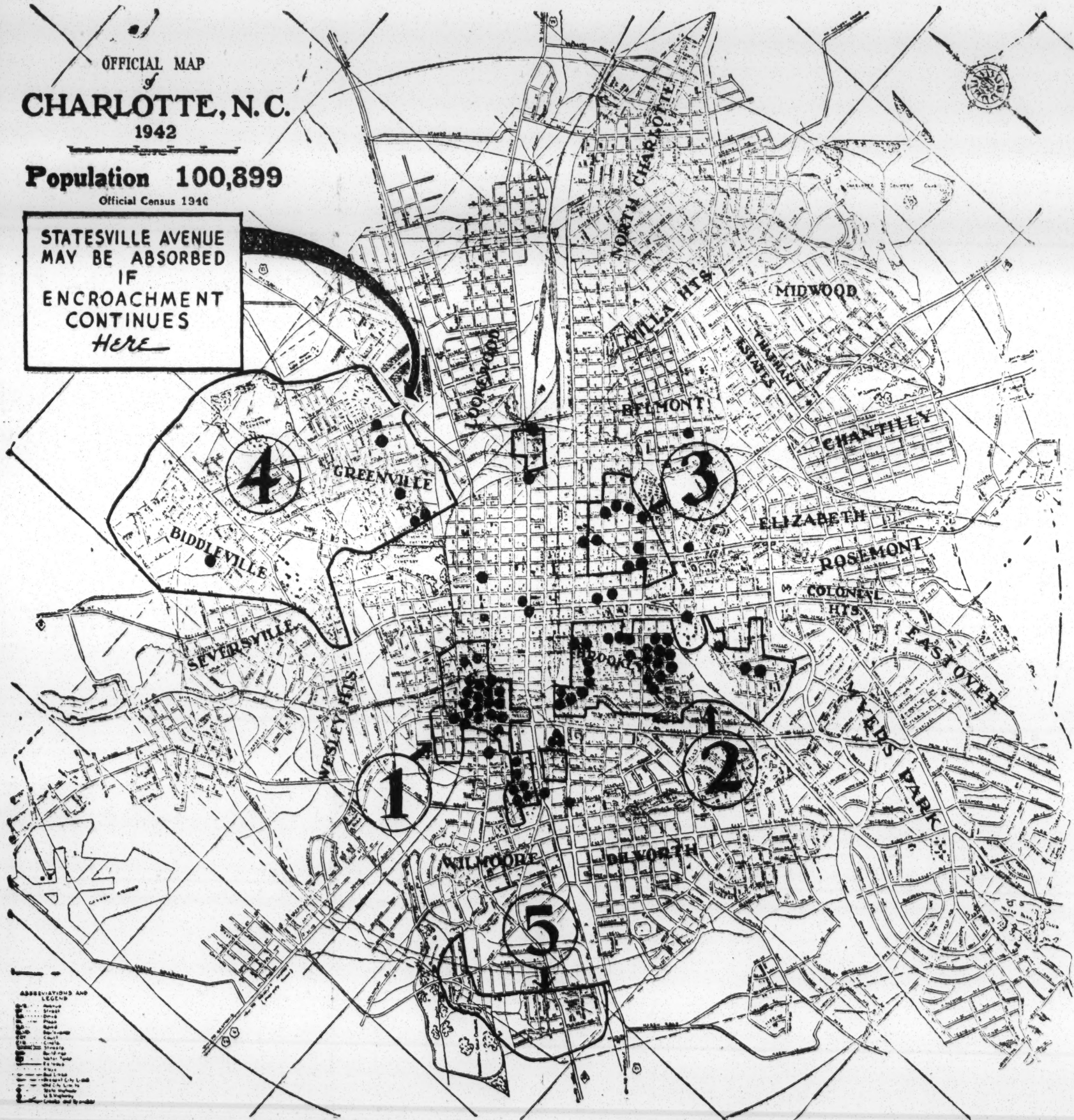
OFFICIAL MAP

CHARLOTTE, N. C.  
1942

Population 100,899

Official Census 1940

STATESVILLE AVENUE  
MAY BE ABSORBED  
IF  
ENCROACHMENT  
CONTINUES  
*Here*



**NEGRO RESIDENTIAL AREAS**—The above map, prepared with the assistance of the City Police Department, outlines the five main Negro residential areas in Charlotte and the vivid ratio of crime to Negro slums. Each dot on the map represents an assault with a dead-

ly weapon in the months of April and May of this year. Note the frequent occurrence of crime in Sections 1, 2, and 3 which have sprung up in rundown areas formerly occupied by whites, and the infrequent violence in the two more respectable outlying districts, Sections 4 and 5. (Art work by Jimmy Barnett.)

A News Survey:



JUL 10 1945

## They Must Be Built

**C**ANCELLATION of plans to build 150 homes for Negroes is a sour misfortune, not only for the colored people of Toledo, but for the whole city.

The contractors, after a year-long controversy with the Plan Commission, the Council and other officials, blame the authorities for strangling the project. The public officials blame the contractors for refusal to conform to all the high standards and rigid regulations for platting, grading, street paving, waterlines and sewers.

This buck-passing dispute smacks of juvenile quarrels, but it is much more serious. It cannot be resolved except by examination, bit by bit, of voluminous evidence, but this much is definite and certain: There has been woeful lack of cooperation and constructive effort to promote construction anywhere in Toledo of the dwellings authorized by federal agencies for Negroes, and for which material priorities have been granted.

In Toledo and elsewhere, local officials are extremely allergic to pressure groups sounding off prejudicial opposition to selection of any site for dwellings for Negroes. The political hazards are greater now, in a municipal election year when all the members of the next Council must be chosen at large. The candidates must win favor and garner votes where votes are to be had in every ward and in each of more than 300 precincts.

In Detroit, as in Toledo, local self-determination was sidestepped until the Federal Government intervened and ordered immediate construction of a Negro housing project in suburban Ecorse.

As a Detroit newspaper comments: "The tendency of the Federal Government to assume a growing influence in state and local matters is not, necessarily, of its own choosing. Local units, falling to function because of internal squabbles, invite direct action from Washington."

There are 25,000 vacant lots within the corporate limits of Toledo. Many, if not most, of these are provided with paved streets, sewers and water lines. The choice of sites is wide and prices of lots range low.

Therefore, if the local authorities and the building contractors do not agree quickly upon construction, the Federal Government should step in here, as it has done in Detroit, in furtherance of the well-being of our Negro citizens comprising ten per cent of the population.

Repeatedly the necessity for action has been demonstrated and emphasized. We have as many as five Negro families huddled in one small house. Several Negro citizens have been burned to death in firetrap homes.

It might be helpful here if we could have some organized tours of our poorest Negro neighborhoods—tours such as General Eisenhower conducted to expose atrocities in Germany. Possibly moving pictures could be made and shown in the theaters—another side of "This Is Toledo."

It is easy to express concern over living conditions of the people in India and in war ravaged Europe, but we can, and must, work out satisfactory solutions of somewhat similar problems at home.

The timidity and inertia of public officials must be overcome quickly by the irresistible force of aroused, intelligent public opinion.



80a-1945

Pennsylvania Housing

# The Marching Mothers of Markoe St.

*The Worker*  
*New York, New York*

9-9-45  
By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA

## MRS. LULU DRUMGOLD

was walking down Markoe St. in West Philadelphia. It was late Thursday afternoon, June 21. Mrs. Drumgold who is 64, turned to wave to her daughter on the porch. The young woman was horrified when she found her mother suddenly disappearing from sight.

Neighbors rushed to the spot. They found the sidewalk and street had collapsed into the sewer. A sixteen-foot hole had swallowed Mrs. Drumgold. She was lying in it. By a miracle she was not killed, although she was seriously injured.

The neighbors soon found out that the injury to Mrs. Drumgold was no freak. City officials announced that 47 houses in the area would be condemned and demolished. They had been built over a sewer. The sewer was collapsing. Homes could never be built over it again. Fifty-three families—153 people—would be forced to move. Where?

Mrs. Drumgold's injury brought to light to thousands the housing crisis in Philadelphia. There were no houses available for the 52 families. The neighborhood Communist Club and The Worker initiated a campaign to arouse the neighborhood to the dangerous situation. Other organizations joined in. The United Peoples Action Committee made the plight of the condemned tenants the spearhead of their campaign for a low-rent public housing program.

A mass meeting was held in the neighborhood church. Rev. Wendell R. Philpot told the 300 neighbors who jammed his church: "It's going to be a particularly hard job to house these people because they are Negroes."

Arthur Huff Fauset, chairman

of the UPAC said: "A fifth of Philadelphia's 550,000 homes have been declared sub-standard by authorities. Philadelphia has to build 30,000 homes a year, a third of them public projects. The houses are needed for homes and for jobs. That is Philadelphia's share of the 1,750,000 homes a year that R. J. Thomas says the nation must build to supply needed homes and help furnish 60 million jobs."

Thomas Buckley, City Engineer told the mass meeting: "The people in this area are sitting on a bomb. There may be a collapse or explain at any time."

This correspondent spoke. He said: "City Council must take responsibility to get a housing project built for these 52 families. That will be the spearhead for getting the thousands of other houses built."

A Citizens Housing Committee was formed. They met with city councilmen. Five years ago Philadelphia refused to cooperate with the Federal Government in a 19 million dollar housing project. The Republican Administration is dominated by the Pew-Grundy machine. It was a job to convince the Council that the 52 families whose houses they condemned constituted an emergency and a city liability. They agreed, reluctantly to cooperate in asking the Philadelphia Housing Authority to build a 60-home project for the condemned tenants.

The Committee brought down twenty families for a mass registration at the Housing Authority office. Mothers came with children. Fathers on night work came. After they had registered, they marched over to City Council.

"The Marching Mothers of Markoe Street," the newspapers called them. They crowded into Council chambers. The Councilmen sent wondering, looks at the babbling children.

Housing was not on the agenda that day. But the Councilmen from the area heard the mothers'

tenants' demands: "The City must see that a housing project is built for us so we can move from the condemned houses."

Then they marched into the Mayor's office. They were accompanied by the city's only Negro councilman, James Irvin. He is an elderly undertaker whom the Republican machine has kept in council for years as a gesture to the Negro population. 9-9-45

"Have you got an appointment?" the Mayor's secretary asked. The Mayor is another cog in the GOP machine. "We want to thank the Mayor for the city's intention to get houses for us," the delegation said. "And we want to tell him that we insist that he take the lead in getting a project built for us."

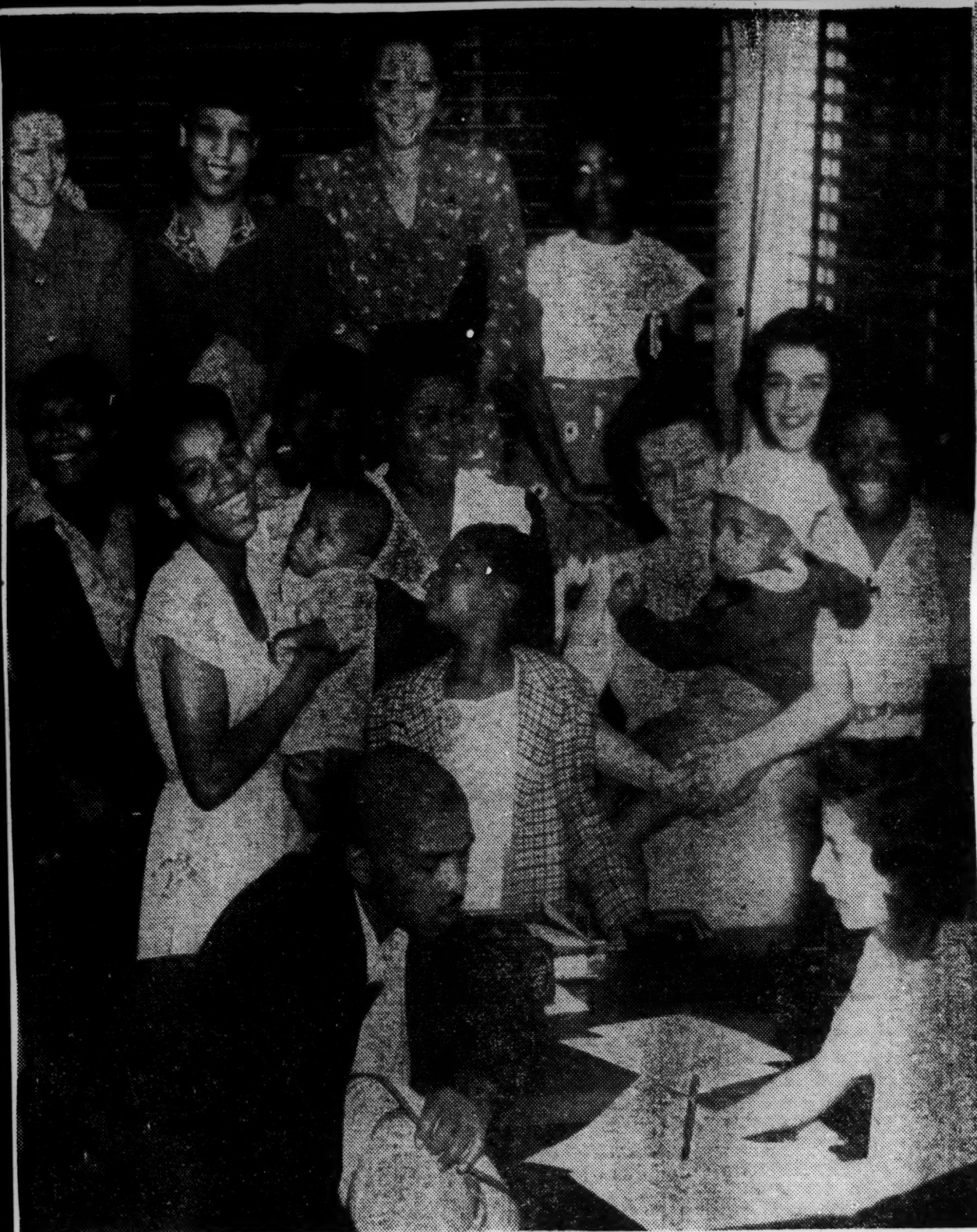
The Mayor saw the Marching Mothers of Markoe Street.



In the mayor's waiting room Councilman Irvin agrees to accompany the delegation to see the mayor.







*Condemned tenants register for homes at the Philadelphia Housing Authority.*



*Tenants throng Republican-dominated City Council to ask action on homes.*



# Factors Affecting The Health Of Negroes In The City Of Houston

By E. W. STEWART

**HOUSTON** — The estimated 125,000 Negroes in Houston live in 40 of the 50 census tracts, they have a relatively high room-per-person ratio per occupied dwelling unit and a comparatively large number of dwelling units have no private baths and are in need of repairs. These facts were obvious in the information which we presented in articles on the location of the Negro in the community and how the Negro is housed.

This is the third in a series of articles on the Negro in the community of Houston and discusses the status of the Negro's health and provisions for its protection.

## Tuberculosis

According to a report of the work of the health department between 1925-1944, there were 68 deaths resulting from tuberculosis in 1944 among Negroes. For the four years preceding, the deaths from tuberculosis were 1940-104; 1941-105; 1942-89; 1943-91. The figures indicate a slow but definite decline in the annual death rate from tuberculosis.

Out of the 122 beds for tuberculosis patients at the tuberculosis hospital on West Dallas, 20 beds in Unit II are available for Negro patients. There are at this writing 10 Negro patients with advanced cases of tuberculosis who are on the waiting list to be admitted to the hospital. The City Manager's report to the City Council for May, 1945 carried this statement: "There were no beds available for five advanced patients who were referred to the unit for Negro adults. There is a need for additional beds in this unit."

Arrangements are under way whereby 16 additional beds (eight for men and eight for women) can be added to the T. B. hospital for the use of Negro patients.

Bonds have been passed for the purpose of making available funds with which to build a city-county T. B. hospital, but work on the hospital can not be started until priorities are lifted.

The tuberculosis clinic is open from 8 a. m. to 4 p. m. daily for the purpose of diagnosing and making X-rays of the chest. There is no convalescent home for Negro tuberculosis patients in Houston. In fact, there is only one convalescent home of any kind (it is privately owned) for Negroes in Houston.

There are nine nurses whose duty

it is to locate cases of tuberculosis and to report them to proper authorities.

One Negro patient was recently released from the tuberculosis hospital where she received sufficient treatment to arrest her case. Provisions are being made whereby she may secure state-provided training in a trade that will enable her to earn money and protect her health.

The Autry Memorial hospital school was erected from money that came through a private gift. The school is not open to Negro children. The city has made no hospital provision for tubercular children.

There are two Negro workers on the staff of the Houston Anti-Tuberculosis League. They are Miss Franceta Lane and Mrs. Jessie Robertson.

## Venereal Diseases

Provisions are made for the detention of V. D. patients on the fifth floor of the Criminal Courts building. Clinical treatment is also given in the basement of old Jefferson Davis hospital at Elder and Girard streets, Station 218.

We do not have a report which shows how many Negro draftees were rejected in Houston and Harris county for health reasons during this war. For the period between February and August, 1943, 49.6 per cent of all draftees examined in 13 Southern states were rejected.

## Cancer

One hundred and five Negroes died in Houston of cancer in 1944. For the four years preceding 1944, the Negro deaths resulting from cancer were 1940-67; 1941-86; 1942-86; 1943-67. Houston has a citizens' cancer committee on which Negroes from the several civic and social organizations are represented. Physicians have been advised to refer incipient cases of cancer to the M. D. Anderson hospital for Cancer Research. Citizens have been urged to be conscious of the symptoms of cancer and to report such symptoms to their physicians. Drs. H. B. Pemberton and H. E. Lee are on the committee.

## Polio

In 1944 there was one death among Negroes due to "polio." There are at this writing two city, two county and three non-resident Negro "polio" patients. There are 10 beds in the isolation ward at Jefferson Davis for Negro polio patients.

## General Statistical Information

W. H. Alban, statistician for the Houston Health Department, reports that there were 1,321 deaths in Houston in 1944. This represents a rate of 11.31 per 1,000 population.

One hundred ninety-three of these died of heart diseases; 151 died in infancy for various reasons, seven from diarrhea; one from diphtheria; four from epidemic meningitis; 83 from pneumonia and four from typhoid.

Of every ten Negro babies born in 1944, eight were born in hospitals and two were born at home. One hundred thirty-two Negro babies were born dead in 1944.

## Hospitals

The Houston Negro hospital has 79 beds including the beds in the obstetrics ward, provisions for X-ray diagnosis and two operating rooms. The laboratory work is done outside the hospital.

One hundred sixty-three beds are available to Negroes at Jefferson Davis. On the tenth floor in the polio ward there are 10 beds; the sixth floor for children, 24; the fifth floor for obstetrical cases, 18 beds after delivery, the fourth, which has all colored patients, 54, and the third, 57. The superintendent explained that if necessary a few more beds could be made available in each ward by crowding the beds in. There is a free clinic for Negroes at Jefferson Davis.

Memorial hospital, a private hospital, has 26 beds available for Negroes. Herman hospital has 50 beds available to Negroes.

All told, there are 338 hospital beds (including those at the tuberculosis hospital) available to 125,000 Negroes in Houston.

The soon-to-be erected St. Elizabeth's hospital will help relieve the bed shortage to some extent.

## Physicians, Clinics

There are 17 Negro physicians and 16 Negro dentists in Houston. There is one Negro optometrist. Negro nurses of the city hold well-child conferences two and three times per week at Kelly Courts, the Houston Negro hospital, Fourth Missionary Baptist church, Cuney Homes and Hester House.

## Drainage, Sanitation

As a whole, the drainage in Negro neighborhoods is highly inadequate. Fifth Ward citizens in the Lyons avenue area had high hopes of relief from standing water early this year. The city installed drainage in the vicinity of Dan and Waco streets which cross Lyons. These installations relieved the situation for that particular area but water still stands on most of Lyons which is lower than the streets which cross it making Lyons a body into which waters from the cross streets pour.

Water also stands on Dowling during heavy rains, to say nothing of

the many streets in residential areas in Negro neighborhoods.

The city has ordinances regulating eating and drinking establishments, the disposal of garbage and general sanitation. We could secure no statistical data on the number of eating establishments operated by and for Negroes which meet the requirements set forth in the ordinance regulating eating and drinking establishments. The ordinance describes a "filthy" establishment as one in which the food is not securely protected from flies, dust, dirt, and where walls and ceilings, where food is prepared, stored, or served are dirty. The ordinance says that employees shall wear clean outer garments, keep their hands clean while handling food, drink, utensils and equipment and shall not use tobacco or expectorate in rooms in which food is prepared.

## Outside Toilets

The City Manager's report does not specify how many of the 186 outside toilets, cess pools and septic tanks which were eliminated in Houston during January, 1945, were at homes which were occupied by Negroes. There were still 4500 such installations in Houston in January, 1945.

## Rehabilitation

The State Department of Education and Vocational Rehabilitation maintains an office in Houston to which any person who has a permanent disability as revealed by medical examination may apply for training in a trade in order to prepare to follow an occupation that will give the greatest protection to one's health. Mrs. Agnes C. Farley, 537 Mellie Esperson Building is the coordinator of the crippled children's division and Mrs. Pearl McKenzie is the field clerk. This office also advises on problems affecting deaf and dumb people. The rehabilitation courses are open to people 16 years of age and over.

## Mental Patients

Persons whose mental health is affected can get help at the psychopathic ward, Elder and Girard streets.

## General

The City Manager's report to the City Council for March, 1945 contains this statement: "Because of the recognized gaps in the health program and facilities for colored people of Houston, the Health Department has stimulated the formation of a committee. This group is composed of influential members of most of the colored organizations and professions in the community and will serve as an overall planning board and clearing house for health projects in this area. It is when people are stimulated to do things for themselves that more permanent improvement in health habits, attitudes and knowledge are obtained" (page 7.).

The Rev. John D. Moore is chairman of the committee. The organization has been set up on a permanent basis and will bring its program before the community early in September. This committee was responsible for the program-exhibit at the Emancipation Park during the 1945 Health Week observance and has received a certificate for outstanding public service from Roscoe Brown of the United States Public Health Department.

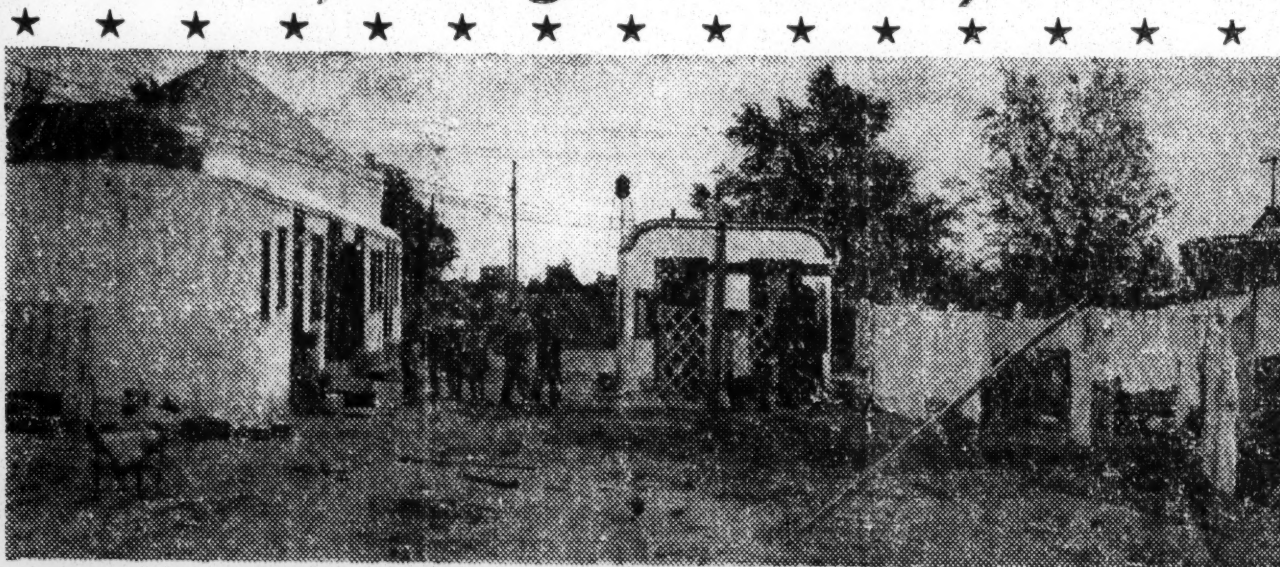


LUBBOCK, TEXAS  
AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

Cir. 5, 19,287

JUL 15 1945

# Cleanup Of Negro Slum Areas In Lubbock Deserves High Priority In Postwar Era



**HOUSES SIX FAMILIES**—A typical scene of the squalor and filth of Lubbock's older negro section is mirrored in this picture of the old Spinning Wheel cafe, now housing six families of up to 10 members each. The small building directly in front of the structure is the toilet for the entire group.

By **BILL BARNETT**  
Avalanche-Journal Staff Writer

One hears a lot of talk these days about how Lubbock is "going to hit 75,000 or 100,000 population within 10 or 15 years after victory" but very little about the fact that we already have some slum conditions here which demand immediate attention and action in order to erase an ever-present threat to health—and in the name of common decency, as well.

The older segment of the negro section, lying west of the railroad tracks and north of Nineteenth street, is a mass of congestion and a conglomeration of filth which, upon inspection by our more civic-minded, would result in fewer references to the fact that for 11 years Lubbock officially was designated the "cleanest city in Texas."

A tour of that area of town, beginning on Avenue D and Fifteenth and running in a southeasterly direction to the city limits, discloses rows of tiny shacks, overflowing with large families and with very inadequate sanitation and health measures.

In sharp comparison to this congested area, and lying in a newer part of the negro section, can be seen rows of neat homes

along East Avenue C and nearby streets, with nicely kept lawns and fresh paint. One row of apartments and houses, located on the very southern edge of the section has lights, water and gas with well-tended drives and lawns and a caretaker's home.

## Residents Not Wholly To Blame

From inspection, and questioning of residents, it was apparent that the negro population has little to do with bad conditions in the older part of their area. Landlords, most of them whites, have taken little trouble to provide adequate sanitation. Negroes owning their own homes, or renting ones in good condition and appearance take care of and pride in their premises.

But for the most part that older negro section—so long known as "The Flats"—discloses itself as a breeding place for disease and furnishes a very poor environment for a large and congested population.

Sewage in tenant homes—usually apartments or groups of houses owned by one person—is largely inadequate. Many families are forced to use the same toilets and faucets, with the sexes unsegregated—in general a condition which cannot be defended.

Nearly every "rent house"

shows that little care has been given it. All of these have been allowed to run down, mostly due to lack of windows, doors and other general repairs. These houses are also constructed "helter-skelter," with most streets disfigured by one-room shacks built on lots from street-to-street and facing the alleys. Few blocks boast a systematic row of homes, built evenly and of good construction.

## Nursery Needs Attention

A nursery — run during the school year and housing some 40 children daily during these months when indoor play is necessary a great deal of the time—sits on the corner of East Twentieth and East Avenue D, and is some 20 feet square. A gas stove in the corner was the lone decoration of the bare floor and walls where children are kept and cared for daily.

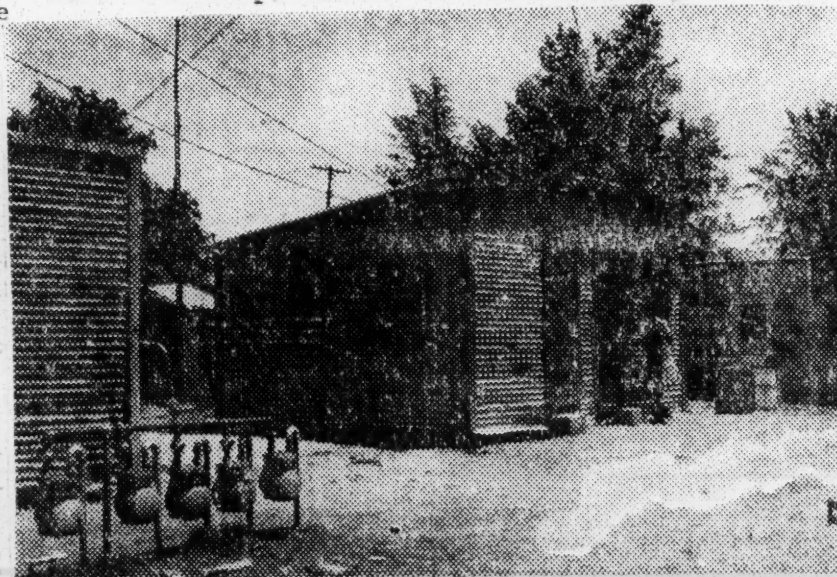
The corner of Sixteenth and Avenue A holds a row of apartments with seven under two roofs and two rooms to each apartment. Families of up to nine members live here with one toilet and faucet at the end of the building for the entire lot.

## Old Spinning Wheel Used

One building, formerly the Spinning Wheel cafe on College Avenue, houses six families at 1323 East Avenue C. A woman residing there said there were 10



**NEED FOR ATTENTION**—This half-adobe structure, with its unsanitary surroundings and conditions, furnishes more proof of the need of immediate attention to the older negro section of the city. Note the outdoor toilet, a common scene along streets and alleys, the sagging door and screenless window. The one-room shack has no chimney, with the cooking done on a wood stove.



**TYPICAL "FLATS" SCENE**—A typical scene along "Coleman alley" in the older negro section is shown here. Note the five gas meters for the tiny shacks jammed along this row. One faucet and two toilets serve the entire alley, housing some 50 or more persons.

members to her family, living in two rooms, and it was estimated that some 30 persons live in the house. Two toilets, one for each sex, sits directly in front of this structure, serving the whole group.

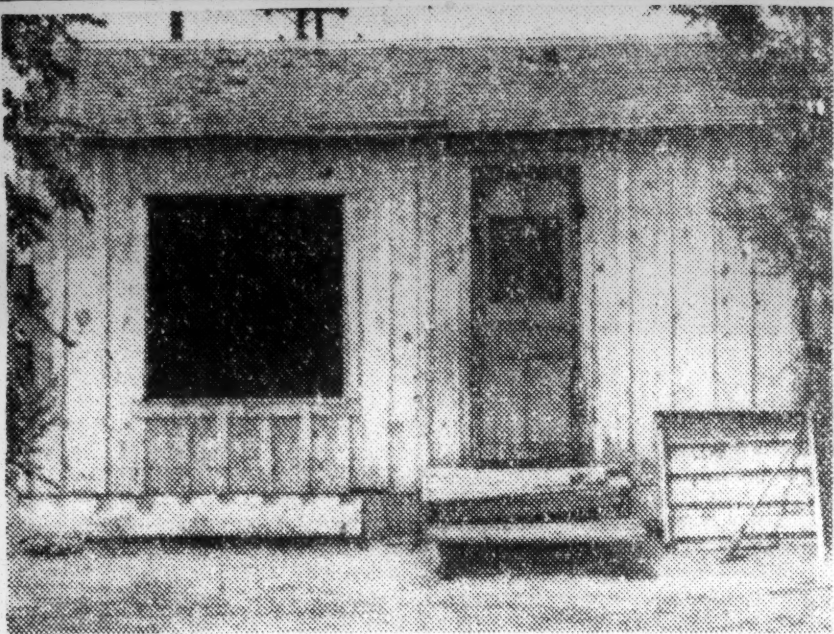
On "Coleman Alley," located between Avenues C and D and running north and south between Seventeenth and Eighteenth, nine shacks line one side and approximately six the other, with several other one-room buildings scattered along behind the two rows. Each houses families of up to five persons.

Threat Of Disease Prevalent

These "homes" — constructed from old refrigerator cars, carpenter's shacks and other material readily available—are served by two toilets and one water faucet.

Four garbage barrels are placed side-by-side directly in front of one house, are the only visible means of garbage disposal. Squalor and the ever-present threat of disease are everywhere through the section—bringing simple conclusion. Lubbock's older negro area needs attention.





**HOUSES 40 CHILDREN**—This is the day nursery in Lubbock's negro section where working mothers leave their children during the day. It is open during the winter months when inside play is usually necessary. Some 40 children are left daily in this building that is approximately 20-feet square. Toilet facilities are inadequate; and a gas cooking range decorated the bare floor and walls.



# Sub-Standard Housing Series Follows Bishop's Articles

1-13-45  
By CARTER WESLEY

DALLAS — The Dallas Morning News scores again with its series of articles by Allen Quinn on sub-standard housing and slum areas in Dallas, a direct follow-up of the fine background articles by Barry Bishop on racial tensions, in which he found that housing was one of the top problems.

The articles at once show how the restricted areas in which Negroes live in cities, in houses, unfit for even livestock, cause repeated outbreaks of racial tension, bad health, delinquency, increased police problems, and of absenteeism from work. These articles lay bare the white public's logical, reasonable and acceptable plan, and the crying need for improvement of slum areas. They are calculated to correct and square the foundation of race relations, and are the first timbers to follow the excellent work of clearing up the ground, which was done by Barry Bishop.

The Dallas Morning News and Allen Quinn are again to be congratulated upon taking the initiative as Southern leaders for improvement of both the economic condition in the South and of race relations, which affect the whole fabric of Southern life. What the Dallas Morning News is doing is most significant, because heretofore Southern leaders have spent their time orating about the good old days of the past, or in damning the meddling Yankees, who criticized the South. Here we have Southern leaders answering the criticism by making a most sensible and direct approach to the solution of the problem, and an approach which no Northerner could make.

If we were for the Barry Bishop approach, we are even more for the Allen Quinn approach, which is merely the logical progress of a sensible, broad policy. Here, on the side of the whites, is the type of leadership which bids fair to make the South a solid and a sound economic community of cooperating citizens, black and white. We sincerely hope that the Dallas Morning News will have the finance and the will to continue in this line of leadership, both for its effect upon its own community, and for its example to other communities in the South.

The Quinn articles being added evidence for our belief that there is an increasing number of whites

in the South who want to do something to improve the racial problem as well as make the South economically, and of course industrially. The thing needed most today is positive, intelligent and statesmanlike leadership on the part of those who are in positions to lead. It is highly important that Negro leaders take broader and less selfish views about this whole problem, while the attitudes and sentiments of the white South are today in flux and ready to be pointed to live in cities, in houses, unfit for even livestock, cause repeated outbreaks of racial tension, bad health, delinquency, increased police problems, and of absenteeism from work.

These articles lay bare the white public's logical, reasonable and acceptable plan, and the crying need for improvement of slum areas. They are calculated to correct and square the foundation of race relations, and are the first timbers to follow the excellent work of clearing up the ground, which was done by Barry Bishop.

## Texans Sue to Open U.S. Homes

By LOWELL LOMAX

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (AP)—Suit against John B. Blandford, administrator of the National Housing Agency, was filed in District Court, Monday, by three Texas war workers, seeking to enjoin him from transferring a Texas housing project earmarked for colored to white occupancy.

Plaintiffs in the suit, Mrs. Louise P. Hughes, Jim Brown, Jr., and A. D. Harper, employed by the Lone Star and Red River Ordnance plants, are represented by Thurgood Marshall, William H. Hastie and Leslie S. Perry, NAACP counsel.

The point at issue is the transfer of the Red River Courts and other public housing projects in Texarkana, Texas, area, built by the Federal Government expressly for colored war workers, to occupancy by white workers.

**Ask Permanent Injunction**  
Petitioners ask the court for a permanent injunction "forever restraining" Blandford and the NHA from denying them and other qualified colored persons the privilege of leasing and occupying vacant and available units in the projects.

The project was erected by the NHA, the complaint points out, pursuant to findings concurred in

by the WPB, the WMC and military authorities that inability of finding suitable housing in or near Texarkana was impeding the war effort.

The fact that this was "seriously impeding the manufacture of essential war materials," the complaint adds, constituted the sole justification for the expenditure of the public funds involved in building the Red River Courts housing project.

**"Excluded Arbitrarily"**  
Upon completion of the project and solicitation of leases from the plaintiffs and others, the complaint continues, Blandford, "in response to demands of white persons of influence, ordered arbitrarily that plaintiffs" and others of their race be excluded.

Mrs. Hughes, one of the plaintiffs, is the wife of a soldier now overseas. Residing in Clarksville, she must travel forty miles each day to and from her job, while the others are forced to travel an equal distance for the same purpose.

**Seek to Save School, Too**  
Mr. Perry, one of the attorneys in the case, also filed a request Monday with Philip B. Fleming, administrator of the Federal Works Administration, to halt the proposed transfer to white occupancy of the 130-pupil FWA school at New Boston, Texas.

In his letter to Mr. Fleming, Mr. Perry urged "that the New Boston school be retained for colored pupils irrespective of any change which may occur in the racial occupancy of the adjacent Red River Courts) housing project by order of the NHA.

He accused the New Boston superintendent of schools of having recommended construction of the school for colored children, then bringing pressure to bear as a member of the local housing authority to have it transferred to whites.

## Suit Charges Negroes Denied Housing Units

Washington, March 5 (AP)—Suit to compel leasing of Government housing to Negro war workers in the Texarkana, Texas, area was filed in Federal District Court here today.

Attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People filed the suit. It seeks to enjoin Administrator John B. Blandford and the National Housing Agency from denying the housing to Negroes "because of their race and color." The suit applies specifically to the Red River Courts Housing Project.

### Applications Were Received

The association said:  
1. After the project was completed early this year, the housing agency asked for lease applications and received them from about 200 Negro war workers. A large number were found eligible.  
2. Therefore, Blandford, "in response to the demands of white persons of influence in and about Texarkana," ordered that Negroes should be excluded from the Red River Courts.

DALLAS, TEX.  
NEWS  
Circ. D. 128,637 - S. 150,592

SEP 27 1945  
PAGE TWO

## Survey Asks Housing for All Races

An adequate, long range housing program for Dallas should not draw the color line, the committee on housing for the Council of Social Agencies said in a survey released Wednesday.

"There has been poor provision for low-income groups of all kinds," said Postmaster J. Howard Payne, chairman of the housing committee.

"No program would be complete without recognizing the needs of low-income Negroes, Latin Americans, as well as whites."

The Council has discharged its duties in making the survey, Payne said, and implementing its recommendations is up to city officials, finance and construction groups.

**To Consider Report.**  
The board of directors will consider the survey at a meeting early in October, he said.  
The survey said immediate solution of the housing shortage was through the use of prefabricated units, being built in Dallas.

"Use of these units in the city limits, however, requires temporary suspension of provisions of the building code," the report said.

"The committee recommends, therefore, that the City Council suspend such regulations to permit the use of prefabricated housing, to be discontinued when permanent housing is available."

Opinion was expressed it would take three to five years to provide housing to relieve the situation.

### Delay to Reconversion.

The survey found further that: The housing shortage is seriously delaying reconversion. It may prevent many peacetime jobs from materializing.

When veterans return to find no suitable housing, there may be strong political repercussions.

There is no probability of any appreciable amount of housing becoming available because of the removal of war workers. Ninety per cent of them intend to stay in Dallas.

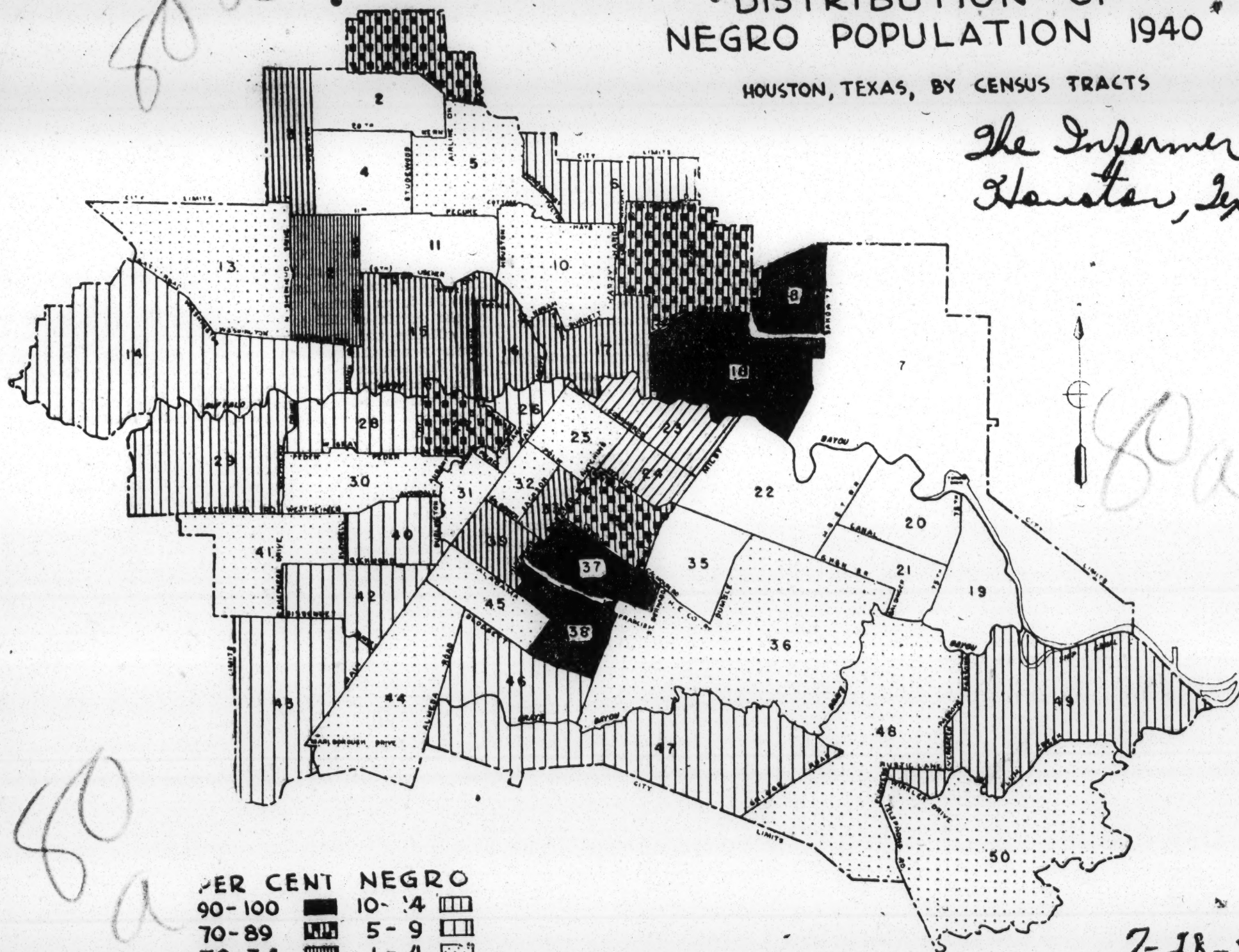
The committee which prepared the survey included Payne, Tom H. Owen, vice-chairman of the Veterans Service Center; Miss Thelma Whalen, executive secretary of the Family Service, and Clyde V. ... former industrial manager of the chamber of commerce.



# DISTRIBUTION OF NEGRO POPULATION 1940

HOUSTON, TEXAS, BY CENSUS TRACTS

*The Informer  
Houston, Texas*



7-18-45



# *The Informer* Housing In Negro Neighborhoods In Houston

By E. W. Stewart

Houston— This is the second in a series of articles on the Negro in Houston. The first article which appeared in this paper last week discussed the location of the Negro in the community. This article discusses the housing of Negro residents, and subsequent articles will treat the Negro's health, his occupations, and problems affecting his participation in community life.

The legend at the bottom of the accompanying map describes the Negro population of each census tract. By using the map to establish the locations of Negro neighborhoods, the reader can follow the discussion of the types of dwelling units in each tract.

The majority (between 60 and 60 per cent) of the occupied dwell-

ing units in Tract Eight, which is bound by Waco, Sakowitz and in Elbert Hooker's (Houston County Market streets, were in need of major repairs and lacking private bathroom facilities in 1940. The

Negro population of Tract Eight in 1940 was 3,572. Between 70 and 79 per cent of the occupied dwelling units in Tract 18, which is bound by Lockwood Drive, Buffalo, Ba-you, McCall Street and Lyons Avenue and which had a 1940 Negro population of 12,039, could be described as sub-standard in 1940.

Tract One, the Heights area with 2400 block on Leeland avenue, 29th Street and Link Road on the South, had an almost solid Negro population with from 70 to 79 per cent of the occupied dwellings below par. Tract Nine, which is bound by Lorraine, Lyons and Col-lingsworth, and Hardy and which had a Negro population of 10,312 in 1940, had between 40 and 49 per cent of sub-standard houses at the time of the last official census. In-

cidentally, the much-discussed "Saw Dust Alley" between Whitty and Deschaumes Streets is located in Tract Nine. "Saw Dust Alley" is a colony of small frame houses which are located close together. The settlement gets its name from the generous sprinkling of saw dust on the grounds of the area. Tract 27 which is bound by Taft West Webster, and Dallas had a 1940 Negro population of 11,489; it also had from 40 to 49 per cent of its major dwelling units in need of repairs and no private bathrooms in 1940.

The same was true of Tract 34 which is bound by McKinney, Pierce, Milby, and Hutchins and which had a Negro population of 5,614.

Tract 17 which is located between Acuff and McCall streets and which had a 1940 Negro popu-

lation of 1,051 (between 30 and 34 per cent of the population of Tract 16, which had a little over half of its dwellings in the sub-standard class, Tract 15 had a 1940 Negro population of 2,098, between 30-34 per cent of the total population for that tract and had between 30 and 34 per cent of sub-standard houses.

Overcrowding

Of the tracts which are most heavily populated by Negroes Tracts 16, 17, lead with dwellings units which are over crowded Tracts One, 34, and 27 following closely. Tracts Nine, Eighteen, Fifteen, Thirty-seven, and Thirty-eight, all of which are relatively

heavily populated by Negroes have a comparatively high room-per-person ratio. A good picture of the areas in which there is much over-crowding can be seen in Elbert Hooker's (Houston County Market streets, were in need of major repairs and lacking private bathroom facilities in 1940. The

The reader will understand that although there are any number of adequate and comfortable dwelling units occupied by Negroes in the several census tracts, those units which are located above Lyons Avenue and which have stores, cafes and similar businesses along Lyons Avenue and West Dallas street, "Noah's Ark" in the Heights area with 2400 block on Leeland Avenue, 29th Street and Link Road on the South, had an almost solid Negro population with from 70 to 79 per cent of the occupied dwellings below par. Tract Nine, which is bound by Lorraine, Lyons and Col-lingsworth, and Hardy and which had a Negro population of 10,312 in 1940, had between 40 and 49 per cent of sub-standard houses at the time of the last official census. In-

Homes projects which is located in Tract 38 and about 1400 Negroes live in the 333-unit Kelly Courts project which is located in Tract 18.

Because over-crowding and dilapidated housing tend to be a causative factor in delinquency, it will be necessary to defer to housing again when we discuss problems affecting the Negro's participation in community life.

7-28-45



80a-1945

Richmond Times-Dispatch  
Social Problems of Negroes

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

The social problems of our Afro-American citizens of Richmond are similar, if not identical, to those of our white citizens of Richmond. Both problems cry out to high heaven for attack and solution.

In the case of our Afro-American

Richmond Times-Dispatch

can citizens, they, like our white citizens, can and do bring their organized influence (churches, character-building agencies, civic, business and political organizations) to bear upon their social problems in their effort to solve them. But, unfortunately, their efforts to curb child and youth delinquency and other anti-social tendencies among them have not hitherto been implemented by the taxing power of the whole community as in the case of our white citizens. Hence, little or nothing has been accomplished as to them in this regard.

Let us illustrate: first, Afro-Americans of Richmond do not serve in any capacity clothed with sufficient police power to arrest a single would-be criminal among them, nor are any of them clothed with any civil authority even to advise with mothers and fathers and guardians on their own would-be delinquent children or young people.

Second, no conference with the law-enforcement machinery of Richmond has been arranged for them to the end that their church, civic and business leaders might not only be encouraged but helped by the politically organized taxing power of Richmond, as in the case of our white citizens in this respect, in their efforts to curb child and youth delinquency and anti-social tendencies in their group.

Herein lies an obvious injustice and undemocratic practice to a substantial part of our taxpayers of Richmond, and it is further proof that our interracial difficulties here in Richmond, as elsewhere in our great State, stem from government itself rather than from white people en masse.

Richmond. G. C. GRANT.

Virginia

# FHA-Sponsored Project for Vets Bars Colored

NORFOLK, VA.  
LEDGER-DISPATCH

Cir. D. 60,108

AUG 27 1945

Colored veterans are barred from tenancy in the FHA-sponsored Paisley Forest project near Arlington, Va., advertised in a local paper as a "beautiful new subdivision created for U.S. veterans . . . a community of highly restricted detached brick homes."

Even if he had a government loan for the required down payment on one of the \$8,750 homes, financed by the FHA, a colored veteran would not be accepted, the real estate firm of Frederick W. Berens, Inc., advised.

## Can't Restrict Jews

When asked about acceptance of Jewish veterans, a clerk said, "Well, we just can't restrict them."

The local NAACP reported that there were no known projects, financed by FHA or otherwise, for the development of any new projects for colored veterans; and that they advised the late President Roosevelt last October of the FHA bias.

## Offending Manual

The official FHA Underwriting Manual, a guide for government housing officials, tells FHA agents to beware of "adverse influences," such as "unharmonious racial groups," and to "prevent infiltration" by such elements in government-approved-and-financed projects.

The manual emphasizes that the "stability" of housing projects financed by FHA depends on continued occupancy by the "same social and racial classes," and advocates "prohibition of the occupancy in 'unoccupied' territory) of properties except by the race for which they are intended."

Soon after the advertisement appeared, Abner H. Ferguson, resigned as FHA administrator, effective on July 1, and the offending manual is being revised to eliminate racial segregation and discriminatory policies by the agency.

## A Plan for Slum Clearance

The Housing Authority of the City of Norfolk, prevented during five, war and national defense years from undertaking the work for which it was created, has announced a slum clearance program of a magnitude which suggests that the commissioners mean to achieve long-term results. The authority proposes to convert the two war housing projects it owns (Merrimack Park and Roberts Park) to slum clearance use as soon as the housing shortage eases and hopes to acquire another (Oak Leaf Park) from the Federal government. It has pre-war commitments for a purely slum clearance project (Peake Park) in a congested Negro tenement district; and it is applying to the Federal public Housing Authority for financial assistance in the construction and operation of seven more projects, for both white and Negro families of low income. If all its plans materialize, the authority will have under its control 2,920 dwelling units offering decent housing to 1,720 Negro and 1,200 white families.

In compounding this program over months of deliberation, the commissioners of the authority had before them such data as the Federal housing census of 1940 which showed here were in Norfolk 18,231 sub-standard dwelling units, of which nearly two-thirds (or 12,317) were Negro accommodations. They concluded that since 1940 only a few of these have been remodeled into the standard class, that fewer have been demolished and that in the peace years the worst of the sub-standard housing will be tenanted as it has in the past, by those who can afford no better. After consultation with real estate men, the authority further determined that the lowest rental at which private enterprise is likely to provide standard housing for the average family is \$30 per month for Negroes and \$35 for whites—figures which include heat and all other services. To be on the safe side, the authority designed its program for wage-earners with top salaries justifying rental expenditures 20 per cent less than these levels, thereby hoping to eliminate, so far as possible, competition with private enterprise.

Federal subsidy and loan funds for low-rent housing are not available—the monies of the 1937 Housing Act being exhausted. But the principle of public responsibility for supplying such housing has just been renounced by a special Senate subcommittee headed by the conservative Senator Taft; and a measure to implement the recommendations of the report has been introduced by Senators Wagner and Ellender, two committee members. As its justification for the slum clearance program, the Taft sub-committee found:

The justification for public housing must rest on the proposition that the Federal government has an interest in seeing that minimum standards of housing, food and health service are available for all members of the community. The American people have been impressed with the fact that, in a country capable of our tremendous war-time production, there is no reason why hardship and poverty can not be prevented. The reason for action in the housing field is greater than in the other areas because the cost of decent shelter is such that many families able to obtain a reasonable standard of food, and even health service (for instance, through insurance), are unable to obtain decent shelter. We have so far been unable either to produce sufficient new houses or even to build up a large enough supply of good used houses at prices which low-wage earners can afford.

The local authority has acted wisely in formulating now—months before the materials and labor will be available in sufficient quantity to begin construction—its plan for a better housed Norfolk. Evolved out of exacting study by commissioners selected for vision and civic responsibility, the program commends itself to the consideration of the community.



AUG 26 1945

# Returning Veterans Face Housing Shortage

By Nita Morse

It goes without saying that dreams of returning to a little home with a white fence around it and logs burning in a fireplace are uppermost in the minds of many servicemen of the foxholes, jungles, swamps, mud and dust of this war, but if they are Richmonders, present indications are that they had better have a definite home in mind.

If the serviceman has a signed lease or already owns his home, there is no problem, but for many others, the situation is desperate, according to agencies that have hunted vainly for living quarters for veterans and servicemen's families.

Among those are the Veterans' Information and Service Center which reports the problems of loans, employment, insurance and education for men returning to Richmond, in steadily increasing numbers since Japan's surrender, is minor in comparison to finding them a place to live.

In the past week, four couples have sought aid from the center in obtaining living accommodations without success. One young ex-soldier, his pregnant wife and small child are living on one room. Their household equipment is packed in their automobile, ready for use. Finding a job was easy—a home, thus far, impossible.

One Negro veteran, his wife and three children will soon be homeless due to city condemnation of the property they now occupy.

The situation for Negroes is even "tighter" than for whites according to the interested agencies who disclosed there are no vacancies at Gilpin Court and the 188 unit Brookfield Gardens now under construction has over 400 applicants on the waiting list.

"Although I want very much to live here, I'll just have to leave Richmond," one discouraged veteran told Leslie Jones, director of the center. He said that after years of separation, he and his wife intended to live alone and not cooped up with their families and in-laws.

One of the worst instances of Richmond's acute housing condition was related by a Red Cross worker, who declared, after fruitless months of house-hunting, "I don't know where to go from here.

Every agency has been contacted. Officials just seem to shrug their shoulders."

Last Thanksgiving, she said, several homes on North Fourth St. were damaged by fire and the Negro families occupying them were forced to move.

Over eight months later, 20 Negroes, most of them made homeless by the blaze, are living in a four-room house. Five are adults, and 15 are children ranging in age from seven months to 12 years.

The house boasts two bedrooms, a front room, now converted into a bedroom, and a kitchen—which contains a bed.

The fathers of 10 of the children are in the Pacific. One in particular is frantic over the situation and wrote asking the Red Cross to please find suitable living quarters for his family. The letter was written in July. "I can't answer it and tell him that no one seems to care," the worker said.

## Notice Given

The mother of the two children whose husband is overseas sublet an apartment here. The lessor is a service wife whose soldier husband is home now and has notified the mother that she wishes to occupy the building on September 1.

These instances illustrate the cases of but a few. The number will grow steadily unless steps are taken to provide living accommodations now, the Red Cross worker pointed out. Part of the congestion is due to the fact that veterans are returning and servicemen stationed here are not leaving, she said.

If there is any one in Richmond with a dwelling to rent, the Veterans' Information and Service Center (2-6638) and the Red Cross (3-7451) appeal for help in making it available to Richmond's returning soldiers, sailors and marines.



**Home Is What You Make It**  
Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

E. R. Storrs is right. Apparently neither of us can convince the other in this argument on segregation. But will you allow me space for just one more point before I, too, bow out of the controversy?

My "opponent" states that although there is no physical mass murder here, there is mass murder of Negro ambition. He also says that there are ghettos and points out that there is not a single A-1 residential district for Negroes in Richmond.

A ghetto is not, as he implies, a reeking, unattractive place, but a section, just as Chinatown, the Old French Quarter, and the Swedish settlements are sections. These areas are only as clean and pleasant as the people who live there make them. Ambition, like charity, begins at home. Elbow grease is priceless, in more ways than one. The effect that a hammer, nails and whitewash achieve is astounding. A couple of hours' work each week on window boxes or a yard produces gratifying results. A little imagination and a gallon of inexpensive paint do wonders for a shabby interior, as well as for a dreary mental outlook. No one creates your immediate environment but you yourself—and only you are responsible for making it clean and attractive, or squalid and revolting. The words "ambitious" and "industrious" are nearly synonymous.

7-31-45 A READER.  
Richmond.

## Equality Asked In Housing Aid

Equal opportunity for Negro veterans at Manhattan Beach and other emergency veteran housing projects was requested today by the NAACP (National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People).

12-2-45 Leslie S. Perry, NAACP Washington representative, wired W. W. Stuart Symington, Surplus Property Administrator.

Housing facilities for Negro veterans are doubly critical not only because of general housing shortage, but by reason of the special difficulties they have in securing housing in the private market.

NAACP respectfully, but strongly, urges that there be included in any and every lease of Federal property a provision requiring every state or municipal lessee of these public properties to consider qualified veteran applicants solely on the basis of their need and economic ability to pay the standard rental charge.

# NHA to Sell 176 Public Housing Projects Soon

Disposition is imminent for some 83,000 completed units of public war housing currently open to colored occupancy in 563 projects, according to a preliminary report prepared by Dr. B. T. McGraw, housing analyst with the National Housing Agency.

Of these units located in 198 war production areas in 40 states and the District of Columbia, about 23,000 in 176 projects are of permanent construction and some 60,000 in 387 projects are of temporary construction.

### Occupants May Buy Homes

Within two years after the national emergency has been declared no longer to exist, the Latham Act requires disposal of all federally owned war housing by NHA and the Federal Public Housing Authority.

The temporary public structures are to be demolished and removed and the permanent public structures sold to public or private agencies or to the occupants of the projects. Vacant units may be used to house distressed families of veterans and service men.

In addition to the completed units, some 2,900 public war units in 17 projects now under construction for colored occupancy must also be stopped or disposed of.

The following table shows the number of colored permanent and temporary projects and the total number of public war housing units in the Eastern Seaboard area.

Public war housing completed for colored occupancy, June 30, 1945:

Region, state and locality	No. Perm. Projects	No. Temp. Projects	Total No. of Units
<b>REGION I</b>			
Connecticut	19	20	2,387
Bridgeport	9	4	1,230
Derby	1	1	50
Hartford	7	7	669
Meriden	1	2	119
Middletown	1	1	12
New Britain	1	2	75
New Haven	1	1	35
New London	1	2	47
Watbury	1	1	148
Windsor	1	1	4
Maine	2	5	90
Bangor	1	1	28
Bath	1	1	1
Portland	1	4	61
Massachusetts	6	4	599
Ayer	1	1	42
Boston	3	1	94
New Bedford	1	1	200
Springfield	2	3	263
New Hampshire	1	1	12
Portsmouth	1	1	12
Rhode Island	2	1	63
Newport	1	1	17
Providence	1	1	46
Total 20 localities	30	29	3,151
<b>REGION II</b>			
Delaware	1	1	744
Wilmington	1	1	744
Maryland	6	11	3,801
Aberdeen	1	2	258

Baltimore	3	5
Edgewood	1	1
Elkton	1	1
Indianhead	1	1
Odenton	1	1
St. Marys Co.	2	1
New Jersey	9	4
Bayonne-J.C.	4	4
Bound Brook	2	2
Bridgeton	1	1
Dover	1	1
Monmouth	1	1
Newark	1	1
Paterson	1	1
Trenton	1	1
New York	9	7
Bethage	1	1
Farmgtn	1	1
Brooklyn	1	1
Buffalo	4	2
Schenectady	1	1
Sidney	1	1
Staten Island	1	1
Syracuse	3	3
Utica-Rome	1	1
Pennsylvania	30	10
Beaver Co.	6	6
Cannonsburg	1	1
Chambersburg	1	1
Coatesville	1	1
Erie	1	1
Fayette Co.	1	1
Johnstown	1	1
Philadelphia	5	5
Pittsburgh	5	2
Pottstown	1	1
Sharon-Farrell	1	1
Total 35 localities	55	33

North Carolina	4	4
Fayetteville	2	2
Holly Ridge	1	1
Jacksonville	1	1
Wilmington	2	2
South Carolina	1	2
Charleston	1	2
Spartanburg	1	1
Virginia	7	12
Blackstone	1	1
Dahlgren	1	1
Newport N'ws	2	2
Norfolk	1	1
Portsmouth	4	8
Richmond	1	1
Total 30 localities	12	18
Dist. of Col.	10	15
Metropolitan Washington	10	15
Total D.C.	10	15
1 locality	10	15

TABLE II  
(Under construction, June 30 1945)

<b>REGION II</b>			
Maryland—	1	1	600
New Jersey—	1	1	275
Newark	1	1	22
Utica-Rome	1	1	50
Pennsylvania—	1	1	497
Sharon-Far'l	1	1	440
Total localities	4	4	440

<b>REGION VII</b>			
Dist. of Col.	1	1	440
Metropolitan Washington	1	1	440
Total D. C.	1	1	440
1 locality	1	1	440

Total all regions 16 localities	8	9	2,907
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TABLE III  
(Completed for occupancy under management of War or Navy Dept., June 30, 1945.)

<b>REGION II</b>			
Maryland—	1	1	105
Laurel	1	1	105
North Carolina—	1	1	105

Holly Ridge	1	40
Jacksonville	1	130
Virginia—	1	144
Blackstone	2	70
Norfolk	2	70
Total	2	1,294

### NOT CHARITY

To the Editor of The News: I am increasingly distressed about the legislation against federal slum clearance and housing. Many of my friends join me in disapproval and a feeling of outrage that housing for the lower level of income should be considered charity.

8-16-45 Every thoughtful person knows that no economic and social system has yet been devised that permits everyone to live in decency. Until such system is attained, humanity and public health demand improvization, compromise and change. It is an indignity and error to imply that people of low earning power are objects of charity, when they are in fact victims of a partial failure of a system.

I have in mind a Negro man, responsible and industrious. I have known him housed in a succession of huts in slums. Now he is living in one of the federal housing units. For the first time in his life he is clean; his clothes are clean; his invalid wife and aged mother keep their home spotless. He pays for rent a proper proportion of his earnings from the hardest labor. He is self-respecting. He does not want charity.

One of the real estate men who is most strongly opposed to federal housing sneers at bathtubs for poor people, says that they would not bathe anyway. It is impossible for me to believe that the abstract principle of free enterprise interests him as much as special privilege for himself.

The right to honest opinion should not be questioned. Insincerities, inaccuracies and red herring are subject to criticism. Without doubt, the people of this country believe in a free economy. I do, myself, but I refuse to grant that it is indisputably perfect, and that all the people who do not benefit by it are cases for charity.

8-16-45 A searching and critical light should be turned on our business and political leadership, and kept there, vigilantly to guard against the ever-present exploitation of the many for the benefit of the few, by those who wave the banner of free enterprise as if it were the pure white, utterly final symbol of economic perfection.

HELEN JORDAN COWIN  
4179 Cliff Road.



# Men in the Street

WITH one million families now living doubled up, and veterans mustered out at the rate of 10,000 a day hunting desperately for homes, President Truman's promise of action on housing comes none too soon. The program he outlined last week calls for the immediate release of government surplus housing and materials, priorities for lower-priced dwellings, and legislative price ceilings on both new and old houses offered for sale. Since the third point must await Congressional action, an early improvement in the situation depends very much on the effectiveness of the revived priorities system. The President proposes to channel 50 per cent of all building materials into the construction of housing units costing \$10,000 or less. That is a step in the right direction, but is it a big enough step?

In the present situation, when the demand for houses is out of all proportion to the supply, it is very difficult to prevent a maximum price from becoming a minimum. Thus there is real danger that most new houses will be built to sell very near the limit. According to the realtor's simple rule of thumb, a \$10,000 unit rents for about \$100 a month. But only 4 per cent of American families can pay \$75 or more a month, and it is estimated that only 6 per cent of the veterans can afford to pay more than \$50 a month for a home. In other words, in order to stimulate the supply of housing in accordance with needs a much lower ceiling should have been set.

Another objection to the encouragement of \$10,000 houses is the fact that such units absorb additional quantities of critical materials and equipment. A house with two bathrooms provides shelter for only one family, but it deprives the builder of equipment essential for lower-priced units which could give homes to two families. Moreover, in the absence of any control over profit margins except that provided by the Federal Housing Authority's valuation system, there is a standing temptation to builders to add gadgets to justify a higher price while skimping on solid construction. Thus the President's new plan provides no guaranty against the diversion of most new housing to a tiny minority of the population, leaving the veterans to be accommodated in abandoned army camps, trailers, and collapsible war housing.

There is, however, pending before the House Banking and Currency Committee a bill introduced by Representative Patman which not only includes power to allocate scarce materials for low-cost housing but provides for price ceilings on all new construction and authority to check speculation in existing houses. "Such authority," wrote John W. Snyder in the memorandum on housing on which the President's action was based, "is essential if we are to avert further skyrocketing of home prices." The bill declares that ceiling prices on new construction should be determined on the basis of actual cost plus the prevailing contractor's margin for similar buildings in 1941. An important fea-

ture of the measure is that it would permit some flexibility of action enabling the government to vary its formula for different areas, relaxing or tightening controls in accordance with local needs. The bill has the whole-hearted support of Chester Bowles, chief of the Office of Price Administration, who sees in it a valuable new weapon in the fight against inflation which he is waging so stoutly.

By approving Mr. Snyder's memorandum the President has inferentially given his blessing to this bill. But the building industry and real-estate lobbies have been carrying on a strenuous campaign against it, and if it is ever to emerge from committee there will have to be much more forceful pressure from the public.

One step by the President which may conceivably help to organize public opinion behind this and similar measures to meet the housing crisis is the appointment of Wilson Wyatt as Housing Expeditor. As the war-time mayor of Louisville, Kentucky, Mr. Wyatt demonstrated ability to plan for the future and rare courage and independence as an administrator. Moreover, he made a point of going to the people—Negro as well as white—for direct approval of his ideas for a better community. Mr. Wyatt's municipal experience is an important qualification for his new job, since building is a peculiarly local trade and its problems must frequently be tackled locally in cooperation with contractors, realtors, municipal authorities, and tenants' organizations.

In seeking to remove the many bottlenecks in the housing industry Mr. Wyatt will have to work within existing legislation, which is clearly inadequate, and get along without too much backing from his immediate boss, Mr. Snyder, whose past record has been one of vacillation and retreat. But if Mr. Wyatt will take a leaf from the book of Mr. Bowles and explain clearly to the public what his problems are and what action is needed to overcome them, he has a chance to rally a volume of opinion which will smother the speculative interests. For housing is one issue which can be taken to the man who is, literally, in the street.



# Black Marketing In Unwanted Children Of Spinsters Shocks British Public Coloured Offspring Present A Problem

By GEORGE PADMORE, Our London Correspondent

LONDON.— In a recent dispatch I raised a question about which there has been a conspiracy of silence: What is going to happen to the coloured children born of English girls and coloured soldiers after the war is over? 1-27-45

Many other people, especially British social welfare workers and coloured staff members of the American Red Cross Clubs in Liverpool, Bristol, Manchester, London and other English communities, are also asking the same question.

However, the authorities seem to be taking an ostrich like attitude.

To them, it just does not exist.

Nevertheless, the British public have been shocked by the sensational revelation concerning the "black-market" racket going on in unwanted children of unmarried mothers.

While the vast majority of these child-victims of "baby-farming" are white, English girls who have got themselves in trouble with coloured soldiers are also trying to get rid of their coloured kids before their husbands and sweethearts return home from the various war-fronts. 1-27-45

In order to try and rescue some of these children of mixed parentage, a committee of leading coloured British colonials living in this country is trying to organise a children's home to be named after the distinguished Afro-American leader, the late Booker T. Washington.

I shall have more to say about this project in future dispatches.

Here, I am chiefly concerned about the facts revealed in the "baby-farming" racket, as unearthed by the Secretary of National Children Adoption Association.

## "BABY DEALERS"

The "baby-dealers" get in touch with young girls who get into trouble with soldiers and arrange to meet them outside the maternity hospitals on the day of their discharge, when the baby is handed over. 1-27-45

Under British law, an unmarried mother has the right to dispose of her baby to anyone she chooses.

## Baby Selling Proves Lucrative In Texas

HOUSTON (Texas).—"Baby brokers are conducting a lucrative business in this city, selling infants—some of them unborn—for cash," says Mrs Margaret Markle, of the County Probation Office.

Hundreds of such children are sold in Houston, annually, through "brokers" and through newspaper advertising.

Many of the 322 children adopted in Houston last year found new parents in this way, says Mrs Markle. 2-22-45

Prices ranged up to £100.

Some unmarried mothers agreed to give up their babies in return for the hospital and doctors' fees.

Mrs Markle said that one married couple sold two babies—one before it was born.

The father placed advertisements in the newspaper calling for the highest bidder.

One woman offered £100 for an unborn child, then changed her mind and brought the 15 month-old baby of a married couple.

The father later lost £30 at dice and used another £50 as the first instalment on a motor car.

Mrs Markle says that this traffic in babies is a result of a war-time rise in illegitimacy and a lack of laws to stop baby selling.



**Birmingham News, 1945**

BIRMINGHAM, SO FAR AS ITS NEGRO POPULATION IS CONCERNED, is suffering greatly for parks, recreation centers, playgrounds and the like. Something can and should be done about this. There are far too many men, women, boys and girls constantly on the streets of this city, and there will be more and more of them as the soldiers return from the battlefronts. We hear much complaint about congested areas in sections where Negroes are, and that the Negro has the habit of "hanging around," but the answer to this is that he must hang around, unless he just keeps walking, for he has no place to go. **Birmingham Ala.**

Negro organizations, including the churches, would do well to address themselves to this situation, and remedy it while money, spirit and good will are to be found. **8-26-45**

Among the other imperative needs is an up-to-date hospital for Negroes. We have some fine physicians and surgeons in the Negro race and hardly any place to practice their professions efficiently. There are many hospitals in Birmingham and Jefferson County, but they are not open to the practice of Negro physicians and surgeons. This in the face of the fact that nearly 40 per cent of the Birmingham population are Negroes.

It is the general opinion that we have talked quite enough about the need of a hospital for Negroes and that the time is now to build one, equip it, or buy some place and convert it into a hospital, and save the race of so much suffering and death caused by the lack of proper care that is guaranteed only by hospitals with efficient doctors and nurses.



## Arkansas On The Alert

A two-day visit to an assembly of Negroes in Arkansas will convince anyone that if Oklahoma and Texas do not wake up the men and women in the Delta country are going to take the ball of liberalism away from them. Only a few miles from here, behind the university building at Pine Bluff, where the second annual conference of Arkansas, NAACP, has been in session, are the rolling plantations, where hireling bonds and all forms of semi-peonage are being practiced, but on the streets and in the A. M. E. church where the conference was held Wednesday and Thursday, Negroes from this backward section of the United States talked openly of freedom and justice.

And there should be no wrong impression given when reference is made to a "backward" section. For in many respects we have found here a type of progressiveness not even present in certain northern sections of the United States. Negroes in Pine Bluff are unusually progressive, but the backwardness refers to the lack of democracy in this region, where denial of the franchise is almost total, and where the riding boss still gallops across the bottoms with his gun and lash.

Oklahomans would be shocked down in this section to see whites riding in school buses out in the rural section, while Negro youth walks, and the run-down cabins to be seen along the highway are aptly expressive of the type and character of wages handed out to blacks down in Hattie Carraway's country.

There are many contradictions and upsets that come as one roams around to observe what is going on. As a matter of fact we wondered when we visited the grounds of the state college Thursday morning, why it was the white man can not standardize his prejudice. In Oklahoma, Negroes have trouble getting the state to erect a physical plant at Langston university, while down here at Pine Bluff the state has allowed Negroes to secure a fine physical plant, respecting which Oklahomans dream. One would think that Oklahoma Negroes, with the ballot, could force an issue and secure with ease what voteless Negroes in Arkansas now possess in a physical plant at their state university.

But, according to President Davis, Arkansas Negroes have their own special problems. Although they have an excellent physical plant, the State of Arkansas is reluctant to allow sufficient maintenance funds, so the physical plant suffers. In Oklahoma we vote, and still have not learned how to secure adequate facilities at our state college and proper maintenance funds. The NAACP conference went on record as endorsing the committee for education headed by Carter Wesley of Houston, Texas, and others, which means that Arkansas will take its place along with other Negroes down south in opposition to regional colleges and out-state scholarships. There was full agreement that the mandates of the U. S. Supreme Court should be fully carried out, and that "equality in education must occur within the state."

It was interesting to listen to the panel on suffrage Thursday afternoon conducted by two able Negro attorneys, Flowers and Perry. I learned for the first time that following the victory in the white primary cases in Texas the Arkansas legislature proceeded to enact new legislation separating state and national elections. Down here in Arkansas the reactionaries, in their efforts to evade the plain mandate of the court, have decided they will allow Negroes to vote

for president, congressmen and senators, but that a black citizen cannot enter the state primary of the Democratic party when and while that "gentleman's club" is selecting the folk who will operate the government and control the lives, liberty and property of a half million blacks. 7-7-45

We trust the Arkansas Conference of the NAACP will lay plans to carry the Arkansas State Democratic Central Committee right into the Supreme Court of the United States at the next election to determine whether or not the state primary is any more of a white man's social club than the federal primary. We believe the presently constituted Supreme Court will be inclined to write an opinion in such uncertain language that even those statesmen who hang around in the Ozark hills around Little Rock, will understand that any attempt to bar Negroes from state primaries is in direct violation of the constitution of the United States.

Peonage is rampant down in this section. Why should a mercenary constable be allowed to round up Negroes on vagrancy charges, and having them fined, allow some plantation owner to pay ten per cent of the bond and compel these helpless Negroes to work out the full amount of the sentence? That is what is called "hireling bonds" down in Arkansas. It is the most vicious practice in the Southland. Unquestionably, Arkansas is fertile soil for a civil rights organization.



# 'People Ahead Of Leaders', Says Georgia's Governor, Poll Tax, Freight Rate Foe

Youthful Executive, A Conservative Liberal In  
Philosophies, Believes South Should Tackle Own  
Problems First—Opposed Talmadge

(A comparative newcomer on the Southern political scene, Governor Arnall has attracted attention with his court suit against freight rate differentials, his successful fight to have Georgia repeal its poll tax law, his energetic views on matters in general. The Commercial Appeal begins herewith a series of articles on Georgia's youthful governor.)

By KENNETH TOLER  
Staff Correspondent

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 20.—The Nation's youngest governor—37-year-old Ellis Gibbs Arnall of Georgia—is blazing a trail of conservative liberalism in the heart of the South.

There's nothing starry-eyed or theoretical in his approach.

It's patterned on clear-cut vision and the courage to translate it into action without apparent regard for political expediency.

Governor Arnall is a son of the South who believes that too long has it lived in the past blinded to a course of orderly progress through inauguration of a broader economic opportunity to all its citizens—both white and colored—without any social significance.

## Likened To Rumbold

The philosophy of this Georgia-born Governor of one of the original thirteen states he sums up in the words of that fiery old English Puritan, Richard Rumbold, as he called from the scaffold:

"I could never believe that Providence sent some men into the world, ready booted and spurred, to ride, and others, ready saddled and bridled, to be ridden."

Governor Arnall in assuming his conservative-liberal philosophy does not feel he is a "lone voice in the wilderness." In fact, he believes it is that of his people who are being held back by a leadership that seeks justification for its position through resort to demagogic and rabble-rousing expressions and philosophies.

"The philosophies and thinking of the people are far ahead of that expounded by those who claim to be their leaders," he said.

Illustrating his point, the Governor recites the recent repeal of the poll tax in Georgia. Its suggestion—much less recommendation—is considered "political dynamite" in those states still requiring payment of the levy as a prerequisite to voting.

## Decided Issue

Cognizant of Federal Government efforts to eliminate the poll tax in those states having it, Governor Arnall felt it would be better for his people to decide the issue than outsiders. He believed his people would remove the levy

any paragraph of the constitution of the United States or of this state that may be read to them by one of the registrars."

Governor Arnall does not look upon himself as a "Savior of the South" or as an exponent of any philosophy not in keeping with that of the people. He is more or less putting in play those philosophies he studied as a student at the University of the South at Sewanee where he majored in Greek.

## He's Coming On

Like Plato, he is carrying out his philosophy in which the idea of the good is supreme. He disclaims further political desires in advancing his proposals, although he has been mentioned as a potential Democratic choice for Vice President, for the United States Senate from his native state, and possibly another term as Governor, subject to a proposed change in the present Constitution.

His politics are somewhat of the method employed by Socrates, that is, the propounding of a series of questions with the object of eliciting expressions of opinion in order to establish, or refute, a proposition or conclusion. In that, he oft-times has the newspapers "air out" an issue, and then is guided by public reaction.

Governor Arnall plays his cards on top of the table—face up. His is an office of the people and they are entitled to know everything about its operation. He discusses matters of state only in his office in the Capitol. He never attends caucuses or conferences in hotel rooms, nor while visiting in the homes of friends.

"I will not permit the discussion of state affairs other than in my office," he said. "Too often something might be said or proposed in a 'smoke-filled hotel room' that would not be dared in the sanctity of the Governor's office."

## In Politics at 7

Governor Arnall was born March 20, 1907, at Newnan, Coweta County, Georgia. He attended Mercer University in Georgia (1924-25), and was graduated from the University of the South at Sewanee, Tenn., in 1928, and from the Lumpkin Law School (University of Georgia) in 1931.

He actually started in politics at the age of 7 years when he served as a page in the Alabama House of Representatives. His tenure was during a visit to his grandfather, who was a member of that assembly.

After finishing law school, Governor Arnall was 24 years old. He knew his age would be a bar to getting any sort of remunerative law practice, so he decided to enter politics until he got old enough to win the confidence of clients who "just won't hire a young lawyer to handle their affairs."

"I decided to run for the House instead of just sitting around Newnan waiting to get old and a

law practice," he said. At 24, he was elected in a field of five candidates, losing but 346 votes out of 3510.

In the 1933 Assembly, he was elected speaker pro tem over five legislative veterans. Returning unopposed in 1935, he was renamed speaker pro tem and served as floor leader for former Gov. Eugene Talmadge's administration—although he differed with the Governor on many legislative matters. He co-authored three measures, the first old age pension bill, seven months school term and free textbooks. All passed, but were vetoed by the Governor.

## Named Attorney-General

He joined the office of attorney general as special assistant in charge of banking matters in 1935, and in 1937 was named assistant attorney general.

Former Governor Rivers appointed him attorney general when the office became vacant in 1939, and in 1940 he was elected without opposition.

When Georgia's educational system was disrupted by former Governor Talmadge's ouster of college heads, resulting in dismissal of the institutions from membership in accrediting associations, Governor Arnall decided to become a candidate for Governor.

He pledged to take education out of politics, and, according to his own statement, he was elected over Talmadge by the "women and children" of the state. Without having ever conducted a statewide race, and only 34 years old with the war on, Governor Arnall's friends were skeptical whether he could defeat the veteran Talmadge.

It was in that race that he first came out for the New Deal. He has consistently supported it since, although not blindly. He is not in sympathy with many of its proposals. Unlike his opponent, Governor Arnall pledged co-operation with the Government of the United States and the Commander-in-Chief in waging and winning the war.

He was elected Sept. 9, 1942, and on Jan. 12, 1943, only 35 years old, he became Georgia's 71st Governor.

His parents still live at Newnan where his father is in the mercantile business. He was married to Mildred Delaney Slemons of Orlando, Fla., in 1935. They have a seven-year-old son.



## New Challenger For South's Leadership



Gov. Ellis Arnall, Georgia's up and coming chief executive, received many messages of congratulations on his recent fight to repeal Georgia's Poll Tax Law. Lower picture shows him campaigning for the governorship. He can make the hustings with the best of the rough and tumble politicians, or match wits with constitutional lawyers against the sedate background of the Supreme Court. He insists on discussing affairs of state only in his office in the Capitol, but no holds are barred then and he is surprisingly candid in his opinions.

*Commercial Appeal  
Memphis, Tenn.*



2-21-45



# Future Of Florida Negroes Promising Although Economic, Educational Outlook Uncertain

By JOHN H. YOUNG III, Special Correspondent

**TALLAHASSEE**—There is something basically wrong in this country of ours, something that must be changed before there can be any real surcease from prejudice. Never was I so certain than when I walked through the desolate streets of Florida's capital. Poor people—black and white—struggling along with the weight of economic frustration on their shoulders, are everywhere. Their stores are pitiable examples of business. These things struck me hard enough, but not until I looked at the Capitol itself did I realize the inconsistency of a country that made other sections so prosperous and left this one so poor. How Florida, and other Southern States visited so far, can be made prosperous, is a problem that every conscientious friend of the Negro, and the oppressed, must face squarely. 2-10-45

## Economic Outlook Uncertain

Economically, Negroes in Florida have not been able to escape, to any great extent, from the caste system of the State's main occupation of farming. A great number of Negroes are employed as domestics. While there is still only a small amount of industry in Florida, shipbuilding in Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa, Panama City and Pensacola, provides the greatest opportunity for Negro skilled and unskilled labor. In the upgrading of Negroes in shipbuilding the CIO has played a great part. For the future, the main hope of Negro labor seems to depend on the State's ability to convert small-arms plants for manufacture of small machines for civilian use. Tent-making, now being done on a comparatively large scale for the Armed Forces, may provide an additional industry or may be converted to the manufacture of clothing. 2-10-45



Mr. Young

Educationally, the immediate future of Negro participation on a basis of equality will depend largely on the work of the Citizens' Committee on Education. (See State Supervisor's interview.) Florida is in desperate need of Federal aid for education. One educator estimated that the loss of revenue caused by the ban on racing would run into several millions of dollars in counties where racing was held.

## Better Off Politically

Before there can be any justification for Federal aid, Florida should wipe out the fallacy in her system of education. Here, the State Department of Education has no control over the manner in which counties distribute funds. Too, the State has no control over teachers' salaries. (Alabama has sought to meet this problem by establishing a minimum that must be paid all teachers if the county is to participate in State funds.) If the Federal Government is to assume responsibility for assuring equal educational opportunity, then it must question such a system that grants so complete a sovereignty to a county, especially when one remembers the deplorable school conditions for Negroes in Duval County. There is an indication that Florida is making a step in the right direction. When Dr. William Gray, president of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College, sat in on a recent planning committee of the State Department of Education, it marked the first time in the history of the State that a Negro had done so. 2-10-45

Politically, the Negro in Florida fares better than in the States of South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama. There is no poll tax in Florida. In Daytona Beach and Miami, Negroes participate freely in Democratic primaries. There is a feeling here that better conditions for Negroes in Miami and Daytona Beach are coincidental with their presence at the polls. Both of these cities have uniformed Negro police.

## Future For Vets Promising

A direct contrast is Jacksonville, where no Negroes vote in the Democratic primary. As far as I could see, the failure of Negroes to vote in the Democratic primary in Jacksonville can be attributed to lethargy and apathy on their part. It is amazing that they have not realized that their county board of education is steeped in politics and that until they vote, there will be no improvement in their educational facilities.

Housing for Negroes in Florida is fair, with notable exceptions. Jacksonville has, by far, the best housing in Florida. Miami has her "Good Bread Alley" in the central part of the city. The peculiar aspect of housing in Tallahassee and Miami is that, many times, I saw five to ten houses jammed together with less than a foot between them

and next to them an open space for the rest of the block. Returning veterans will find ample opportunity for investment in housing in Florida.

In conclusion, I believe that the future of the Negro in Florida, and especially the returning veterans, is promising. I say this largely on the strength of my belief in Governor Caldwell's integrity and a cordiality on the part of most of Florida's officials, who express a sincere desire to get to work on a program of advancement for the Negro.



# LACK OF UNITY, CATHOLIC CHURCH DOMINATION, CORRUPT POLITICS, MAR PICTURE SEEN IN STATE OF LOUISIANA

By JOHN H. YOUNG III

**IN LOUISIANA, I found the spirit of Negroes at its lowest ebb. Apathy, lethargy and even indifference, are more prevalent than in Mississippi. There are many reasons for this state of mind. First, there has been no great desire, on the part of Negroes, for education on the higher levels. In New Orleans a Negro who graduates from high school is looked upon as having attained the status that citizens of other localities would accord a college graduate. Consequently, there is no mass leadership on the part of a highly educated group.**

Second, and peculiarly enough, the Negro's advantage of being integrated into the community without any great amount of zoning as to where he can live, has resulted in the disadvantage of lack of unity. (This is not meant in



Mr. Young

any sense as defense of segregation.) He is in the peculiar situation of being able to lean over the fence and talk with his white neighbor who is party to his disfranchisement and humiliation in public places. It is pathetic to hear Negroes in Louisiana point with pride to the fact that they have little or no ghetto, when you must realize that their whole district is an economic ghetto. The white man next door to him is as poor or poorer than he. So because of this arrangement, several factions have sprung up that are completely without unity or accord.

## Assumes Defeatist Attitude

Third, and probably because of the first, the Negro has not been able, in sufficient numbers, to comprehend the strategy of the many forces in action that bulldoze and mesmerize his feeble attempts at citizenship. He assumes the defeatist attitude and feels that he is unable to win out in any encounter with the nefarious political entities that control the State.

I am particularly interested in the state of mind of Negroes in Louisiana because it has produced a situation whereby there is no organized voice in this State that is demanding those things that Negro veterans returning here, will want and expect to find. In order to ascertain whether or not such an outspoken group will develop in the near future, it is important to know and understand where the responsibility lies.

Sixty-five per cent of the people of Louisiana are Catholic. It is no secret to anyone that Catholicism is the strongest factor in Louisiana. Does the responsibility lie here? There are many Negroes in Louisiana who believe so.

## Complacency Blamed On Church

Negroes in Louisiana point out that the philosophy of Catholicism is one which asks its members to forget about

individual and group effort outside the Church and leave their destiny in the hands of the priest. They say that this is the cause of complacency on the part of Negroes here. Certainly there can be no criticism of Negroes, or anyone else, for vesting the responsibility of their status in society in the Catholic Church. I, with all respect, do not hesitate to criticize the Catholic Church for not proving equal to that responsibility.

The marriage ceremony of Mayor Maestri of New Orleans was performed by the Roman Catholic Archbishop. This is only an indication as to how close are the Catholic Church and local government.

If the Archbishop should say today, that it was his wish that Negroes be extended the ballot in Louisiana, it would become a fact tomorrow.

If he should say that all members of the diocese should register and vote, Negroes would awaken from their lethargy overnight.

If he should say that terrible conditions in education for Negroes must go, a plan for vast improvement would be under way immediately.

Will he say these things? That remains to be seen. In the meantime I cannot forget the words of a young man in New Orleans who is making a gallant fight to unite the Negro for greater opportunity: "We face this problem of calling a meeting at a church, which happens not to be Catholic, and having many Negroes say that they can't come because 'Father doesn't allow us to go there.'"

## Win Victory In Education

Educationally, Negroes have won a decisive victory for the equalization of teachers' salaries. At present a group of Negro leaders has met with the State Department of Education and has signed an agreement to forego any further legal action.

The school situation in New Orleans is deplorable. The A. P. Williams School for Negroes, at Perdido and Loyola in New Orleans, has been condemned with a resulting system of transportation for the children who formerly attended school there, that is the most vicious that I have seen so far. These students are transferred by bus for seventy blocks to McDonogh 24 on Adams Street. By the time that the last load gets there, it is late in the afternoon and time for classes to close.

Again in New Orleans, the Albert Wicker Junior High School, at Canal and Tonti, has been condemned. On the whole, the picture for the future education of Negroes in

In Baton Rouge, there is a Negro-owned drug store that compares favorably with the Yates and Milton drug stores of Atlanta. A Negro in Baton Rouge owns three filling stations that are efficiently managed. At one of these stations, 60 per cent of the trade is white.

Housing for Negroes in Louisiana is fair, but not of modern construction. Especially is this true of New Orleans. In Baton Rouge, one is impressed by the good paving seen where Negroes live.

Louisiana has begun to focus its attention on justice. Recently, a Negro was electrocuted for slaying another Negro. Two more Negroes are scheduled to be electrocuted for killing a Negro. While this is good news for Negroes who have always resented the cheap price on a Negro's life, the real news will come when the same fate is meted out to a white man who commits the same crime against a Negro.

## Must Elect Capable Citizens

Politically, the Negro is as dead in Louisiana as last Thanksgiving's turkey. It must be said, however, that a small group of Negroes, aided by the local Negro press, is

## Progress Made In Industry

Economically, the Negro has made some great strides in industry around New Orleans. He has probably reached his peak of skilled employment in those manufacturing plants that have been under CIO control. Also, he is engaged, to a great extent, in shipbuilding, agriculture and some aircraft industry.

Standard Oil refineries employ a vast number of Negroes, but these workers, bulldozed by company unions, are, for the most part, laboring under far worse conditions than those who belong to unions in organized labor.

Negro-owned business is at a lower level in Louisiana than in Mississippi.

The length of historic Rampart Street in New Orleans is lined with "joints" and dives, many of them owned by members of other races. In all New Orleans there is not a modern drug store owned by Negroes.

There are several insurance companies that provide a lone source for mass employment of Negroes in the "white-



fervently working to remedy the situation.

It must be remembered that the Negro is only one of a group of people in Louisiana, that is being exploited and oppressed. In no other Southern State have I found such an example of poor government as in Louisiana.

If Louisiana is to take her place with other forward-moving Southern States, the intelligence of its electorate must improve to the point where its most capable citizens are elected to fill high office. An intelligent Negro vote would go a long way towards assisting those who are interested in good government.

When "Johnny Comes Marching Home" again to Louisiana, he's going to have a great job on his hands. It doesn't seem that the people he left behind are going to do it for him.

## Legislative Committee Studies Financial Pleas

Birmingham News  
B'ham, Ala. BY HUGH W. SPARROW  
News Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The appropriations and finance committee which took under advisement Tuesday afternoon State Finance Director Hayse Tucker's recommendations that \$12,880,000 be appropriated out of the general fund for 69 "urgent" projects at state institutions, faced another knotty financial problem Wednesday.

The question of a biennial educational trust fund appropriation bill was before the committee and "deferable." Among the needs listed in the latter class were about \$2,600,000 in projects connected with the development of the Birmingham four-year medical school.

On one hand were urgent pleas from school forces for a \$6,650,000 annual increase, of which about \$4,000,000, for teacher salary increases, would come out of income proceeds if and when a new income tax amendment giving net proceeds of the levy to education is ratified.

And on the other hand was a recommendation from the finance director that the fund be increased about \$4,400,000 annually, \$1,500,000 of which would be payable out of general fund revenues in event the governor's income tax amendment giving all future net proceeds to the general fund is approved at the polls. The Tucker recommendation also would provide for a substantial salary increase for teachers.

Appropriations and finance committee members anticipated that most of Wednesday and probably additional time later in the week would be required to decide on the war emergency fund, plus provisions for the educational appropriation measure and to draft and meet the payment.

THE 69 PROJECTS RECOMMENDED by Director Tucker as "urgent" also were recommended by a three-member technical committee appointed by the finance director several months ago to survey building and improvement needs at the state's educational and eleemosynary institutions. Besides recommending the program of \$12,880,000 "urgent" projects, Director Tucker listed a number of other projects as "desirable" which would cost \$14,774,000. A similar number of projects, estimated to cost \$7,321,000, were identified as

Auburn; a \$97,000 appropriation to enlarge the agricultural experiment stations on Sand Mountain and in the Tennessee Valley. The committee voted earlier Tuesday to repeal the tax of \$1 on fox hides, thus hurling defiance at fox hunters who support the tax in the belief it protects the animal and at the same time assures an abundant supply of foxes for the hunt.

The committee also received reports from Reps. Thomas A. Johnston, III, Mobile, and Moody Redd, on their findings during a trip last week to two oil producing states to study oil and gas legislation needed in Alabama. The legislators reported that Alabama's oil laws are inadequate. They urged a new oil and gas law and recommended severance taxes on oil and petroleum.

The coliseum proposal authorizes the governor to appoint a special committee to recommend a location. In addition, the bill carries a \$25,000 annual maintenance appropriation.

REP. JOHNSTON STRONGLY OPPOSED exempting gasoline used in farm machinery from taxation. He called attention to the fact that, while the bill appeared to be a measure exempting gasoline used by tractors and stationary engines from taxation, actually it would exempt gasoline used "for agricultural purposes." That, he insisted, could mean almost anything. Rep. Johnston was voted down twice in attempts to amend the section. Only three committee members voted "no" on the motion to recommend favorable action by the Legislature.

The constitution and legislative procedure committee Tuesday approved two bills seeking to establish a system of regional education. Under that system, Alabama Negroes would be admitted to Negro colleges in other states within the region on the same basis as local residents, and Negroes from those states in turn, would be admitted to Tuskegee Institute, the A. & M. Institute, at Huntsville, and the Montgomery State Teachers College without payment of non-resident fees. One of the bills makes a \$25,000 appropriation, out of which the state could assist Negroes seeking postgraduate training in fields of higher education not available to Negroes in Alabama.

Projects listed by Director Tucker as urgent include:

Bryce Hospital: Renovation of buildings and renewal of equipment, \$900,000; tuberculosis building for men (50), \$72,000; tuberculosis building for women (50), \$72,000; building for old men (200), \$220,000; epileptic building for men (150), \$170,000; epileptic building for women (150), \$170,000; building for male working patients (150), \$150,000.

Searcy Hospital—300-bed building for Negro men, \$343,000; 300-bed building for Negro women, \$340,000; sewage disposal system

\$37,000; kitchen and dining rooms for men and women, \$70,000; renovation of three floors in rear wing of 1929 women's building, \$60,000; women's nurses home (40), \$50,000; men's nurses home (40), \$50,000. Partlow State School—Dormitory for low grade boys (168), \$157,000; addition to heating plant, \$24,000; nurses home, female (75), \$123,000; nurses home, male (75), \$123,000; additions to boy colony farm building, \$51,000.

Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind—Building in new location for Negro school for deaf, \$266,000; sprinkler system, blind school, \$8,100; new trades and shop building, \$120,000; renovated central heating plant, deaf white school, \$17,000; renovated central heating plant, blind white school, \$10,000; sprinkler system, deaf school, \$20,300.

Alabama Boys Industrial School—Dormitory, \$65,000; infirmary building, \$30,000; new equipment, \$36,000; addition to boiler, \$16,000; fire protection and water system, \$15,600.

State Training School for Girls—Barn and farm structures, \$7,000; Negro workman's house, \$1,000; laundry equipment, \$4,800; staff house and superintendent house floor furnace, \$1,300; new cottage "A" (34 girls), \$56,000; new cottage "B" (22 honor group), \$43,000; increase capacity of water-catch basin, \$1,600.

Alabama Reform School for Negroes—Hospital for boys, \$15,000; home economics, laundry and girls dormitory, \$30,000; general repairs to building, \$6,900; refrigeration and cold storage, \$25,000.

Department of Corrections and Institutions—T. B. hospitals (two units), 90 beds, Montgomery County, \$175,000; 10 beds, women, Wetumpka, \$33,000; kitchen renovations at Kilby, \$8,300; elimination of fire hazards at tobacco factory and storage group, \$55,000; laundry buildings at Atmore Prison Farm, \$29,000; renovation of main prison buildings, \$28,000; fertilizer storage building, \$5,000.

Alabama School of Trades: Dormitory with main dining room in basement, \$100,000; shop building for light crafts, \$110,000.

Alabama College: Remodel main dormitory and complete dining hall, \$140,000; sewage disposal plant (50 per cent of cost), \$10,000; underground wiring, \$2,000; repairs to Reynolds Hall, \$3,000.

A. & M. Institute for Negroes: Central heating plant, \$40,000; girls dormitory, \$160,000; boys dormitory, \$137,000; complete two boys dormitories, \$25,000; home economics building, \$120,000; 40 duplex cottages, five urgent, \$42,500; additional facilities to library building, \$32,500.

State Teachers College, Florence: Girls dormitory (200), \$312,000; central heating plant additions, \$22,000.

State Teachers College for Ne-

groes, Montgomery: Girls dormitory, \$279,000; library, \$85,000; dining hall, \$180,000; boys dormitories (old dining hall), \$15,000.

State Teachers College, Jacksonville: High School building, \$200,000; addition to Daugette Hall, \$146,000; repairs to Forney Hall, \$15,000; central heating plant, \$25,000.

State Teachers College, Troy: Men's dormitory, \$116,000; library, \$85,000; additions to dining hall, \$20,000.

Alabama Polytechnic Institute: Engineering laboratory, \$675,000; auditorium, \$665,000; central heating plant, \$86,000.

University of Alabama: Infirmary, \$173,000; science building, \$574,000; college of arts and sciences building, \$485,000; addition to boiler plant, \$86,000.

T. B. Hospitals (regional): Seven 90-bed regional hospitals, two urgent, five desirable, \$500,000.

Nursing Homes for Aged: Five 200-bed regional nursing homes (two urgent, three desirable), \$600,000.

Livestock Coliseum: Building exhibiting cattle, \$258,000.

Capitol Group: State office building, \$1,950,000; archives and historical book stacks, \$71,000.



## Hats Off To Georgia's Governor

*Black Dispatch*

"You take my house when you do take the prop that doth sustain my house; you take my life when you do take the means by which I live."

Governor Arnall of Georgia is one of those rapidly increasing number of Southerners awakening to the truth that it is not freight differentials which hold Dixie in the thrall of destitution, but rather the unwillingness of Southerners to allow one-half of the population to have spending power. The gentlemen below the Ohio river are at long last discovering that earning power is wrapped up in spending power.

The South wilfully has refused to allow the Negro a reasonable level of wages, assuming that in doing so the black man was being held back and taught effectively his economic place, but the South in 1945 awakes from its economic sleep to discover that not alone the Negro, but the entire South has been held in economic slavery by this selfish philosophy of take all and give none.

When the white merchant opens his store in the morning it is definitely to his disadvantage that half of his customers arrive penniless and in tatters. Not so in the North, where high wage levels have been agreed upon. Never before has the southern merchant made intelligent inquiry whether his potential customer has a dime or a dollar. He has sat on his doorstep and starved, while attempting to starve another human being.

Was it not Booker T. Washington who said, "No man can hold another man down in the ditch without getting down in the ditch with his victim"?

Now comes Governor Arnall pointing out that while the average annual income of U. S. workers is \$604, in the South it is only \$314, and for Negroes, materially less. In fact, Gunnar Myrdal, in his American Dilemma, tells us that the average annual cash income of many Southern workers, especially Negroes, is from \$50 to \$60. Prosperity for merchandisers depends upon spending power in the environment where they operate, and here we find community will, steeped in race prejudice, that commits one-half of its population to beggarity.

Southern politicians, intent on control, at the expense of both white and black workers, have propagandized community life with the argument that the Negro was Dixie's heavy burden, but along comes Governor Arnall to expose the truth that the black man is the South's economic opportunity, and its number one chance to prosper.

The Black Dispatch predicts now that if low wage levels continue down in southern territory the mass of the blacks are going to move out. Their places will have to be filled and then, and only then, will the South discover its economic blunder. For in the place of the neighborly black worker will come the agitating, dissatisfied worker whose face is white and who will resort, as he has in the North, to violence and murder, to secure his ends. We make this prediction now, that immediately following the cessation of hostilities in the Pacific, a great exodus is going to issue from the South, and it is going to result from the feeling among Negroes that they can improve their economic opportunities in other sections of the United States and in other sections of the earth.

A young Negro lad came to the Black Dispatch office last week fresh from France, where he has fought for the

past year. "I felt more like fighting for the democracy of France than I did for the way of life where I was born," said this lad as he talked enthusiastically about the fine social relationships he discovered in Normandy. "I never saw a whisper of race discrimination until I landed back in America," said this youthful fellow hardly out of his teens.

Governor Arnall is right when he says that social equality and intermarriage have nothing to do with the American right to work and earn a living, and that the hypocrites who confuse these issues have no right to the confidence of Dixie. The race problem is today and always has been steeped in economics. Give the black worker a decent chance to work and he at once will become worthwhile to himself and to the community in which he resides.

## BEHIND the HEADLINES

Governor Arnall  
Speaks His Piece

By ALBERT L. HINTON

UNDER date of March 3rd, this to some of his reactionary and die-year, I penned in this hard constituents, on the basis of column: "The sovereign State his previous actions and pro-Georgia is gradually coming in-nouncements they seem to fit in to its own despite its erstwhile unsavory reputation for reactionism, record since his fellow Georgians racial tension, and mob violence, kicked out red-faced, red galled inequities in Eugene Talmadge in his favor.



MR. HINTON

The state-ment will bear repetition here. It is the Honorable Ellis Arnall, Governor of the Cracker State, speaking.

"All of the South's current ills are a direct result of poverty, the race problem included. Any plan to cure the South of its ills must, as its first order of business, bring about a higher average income for both whites and Negroes."

The so-called race question is an economic one, not social. Pay the Negro good wages for his work, give him the opportunity to demonstrate his own capacity to learn, work and earn, give him his constitutional rights and you have solved this distorted so-called race problem. Only the demagogue tries to make political capital of social equality, of racial intermarriage."

These rather unorthodox bits of Georgian philosophy are contained in an article authored by the Georgia Governor for the current issue of Collier's Magazine. And while they may come as a shock

To the latter, Governor Arnall pays his respects by characterizing him as a "dictator" and "more than anything else a rabble rouser." He declares further that "the South has at times given the rest of the country reason to think of some of her governors as clowns and some of her legislatures as dominated by charlatans and scoundwags."

The overpowering weight of public opinion can be a very potent weapon when brought to bear in the right places—and at the right time. It is a matter of record that Governor Arnall chose both the right place and the right time for action.

In this respect he recalls how the Georgia Legislature relieved the governor of dictatorial powers, sounded the death knell for Georgia's infamous "pardon racket," reformed the State's iniquitous prison system, and extended the right of suffrage to 18-year-old Georgians all with the first 24 days of his administration. He predicts, too, that Georgia's forthcoming new constitution will prohibit "the already discarded poll tax."

This pronouncement by Georgia's Chief Executive recalls how the State Legislature on Feb. 5th of this year voted almost unanimously to remove the one-dollar a year price tag from the ballot after the Governor had threatened to repeal the poll tax by executive order

unless immediate action was taken.

"It isn't good to hear the screams against abolishing the poll tax," he says, "coming from the politicians who are afraid that the men overseas fighting for their right to scream may vote them out of sinecures."

It is refreshing indeed to discover, amidst the morass of misunderstanding, intolerance and suspicion which has characterized the thinking of many southerners of both races for so many years, a native southerner of position and influence who is willing to face this issue squarely and realistically. There is abundant hope for the future in finding such a man who dares to assert boldly that the basis of the so-called race problem is economic, and not social; and who puts himself on record as ridiculing the time-worn escapist excuse that the Negro in the South wants only to eat at the white man's table, or to marry his daughter.

And it augurs well, not only for the future of the State of Georgia, but for the entire Southland as well, a sort of pattern for the shape of things to come.

It has taken a long, long time for the State of Georgia to reach its present eminence. With just a little more effort it may eventually find itself a full-fledged member of the Union.



# Attracting Nationwide Attention

*Atlanta Constitution*  
Georgia's Gov. Arnall continues to attract nation-wide comment and commendation, favorable publicity which is in refreshing contrast to the notoriety which attended the demagogues who have occupied this state's gubernatorial chair in previous days. *Atlanta, Ga.*

Two national magazines, Collier's and Pageant, have articles on him and the progress Georgia has made in their current issues. Another great weekly plans a comprehensive review of the state's governmental reform in an early issue.

The beauty about such national publicity is that it not only receives the attention of readers of the publications in which it appears, but also precipitates favorable comment by daily newspapers throughout the country.

Typical of the praise which has been heaped on Arnall as a result of these magazine articles is a lengthy editorial in south Florida's leading newspaper, the Miami Herald.

7-28-95

"Ellis Arnall, dynamic, clear-thinking and forthright young governor of Georgia, diagnoses the ailment of the south in one word: Poverty," says the Herald. "He blames poverty for inertia and ignorance. These in turn have produced racial and religious intolerance as a springboard for the kind of demagogue whose notion of filling public office was 'to build himself a fish pond with state funds, to substitute fish fries for public hearings on welfare programs, to build his political fortunes on hatreds, prejudices and ignorance.' Gov. Arnall's exposition in the current issue of Collier's magazine does not stop at diagnosing the south's trouble. He also tells what can and is being done about it, using Georgia as his case history.

"Arnall points to the regime of his predecessor, Gov. Eugene Talmadge, as an example of demagoguery in public office. He tells how Georgia voters repudiated Talmadge in 1942; how the legislature quickly divested the governorship of the powers which had made Talmadge a dictator. Arnall then lists a number of pro-

gressive steps taken by Georgia's reconstituted government.

"Arnall describes the new freight rate parity ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission as a major step toward striking the shackles from the south's industrial development and raising the standard of living.

"Gov. Arnall might have gone into another aspect of the problem—the effects of poverty and ignorance as causes of hookworm, malaria, malnutrition and other diseases which are to blame for lack of physical stamina among large numbers of the people of the south.

"As it is, Arnall's analysis is valuable in showing why the demagogue, the rabble rouser, is disappearing from public office in the south. Arnall's article shows by implication how such charlatans and their 'lazy government' have contributed to the south's woes."

## Poverty Behind Race Problem, Arnall Asserts

All of the South's current ills are a direct result of poverty, the race problem included, Governor Ellis Arnall, of Georgia, charges in a signed article in the current issue of Collier's, in which he denounces lazy Southern government, the poll tax, and political demagogues who arouse racial hatreds.

In forecasting that the South is soon to take her place in the industrial world and "achieve her proper destiny," Governor Arnall declares that any plan to cure the South of its ills must, as "its first order of business," bring about a higher average income for both whites and Negroes.

"The South has suffered with inferiority," Governor Arnall says. "The average American annual income at the time of Pearl Harbor was \$604. In the South it was \$314. The average Negro income was considerably lower. No plan

to cure the South of its ills will succeed which does not make that differential its first order of business.

### Is Economic Question

"The so-called race question is an economic one, not social. Pay the Negro good wages for his work, give him the opportunity to demonstrate his own capacity to learn, work and earn, give him his Constitutional rights and you have solved this distorted so-called race problem. Only the demagogue tries to make political capital of social equality, of racial intermarriage."

Governor Arnall predicts that once the South becomes "genuinely prosperous, so that there is economic opportunity for every citizen, white and black, the two races will live on friendly terms." He then charges that the South's low income is responsible for squalid housing, inadequate diet, the disease and high mortality rate of the Negro citizen.

The Georgia governor calls ex-Governor Eugene Talmadge, whom he defeated at the polls, a "dictator" and "more than anything else a rabble rouser," and declares that "the South has at times given the rest of the country reason to think of some of her governors as clowns and of some of her legislators as dominated by charlatans and scalawags."

### Killed Pardon Racket

The Georgia Legislature, he recalls, took dictatorial powers from the governor, killed the "pardon racket," reformed the "infamous prison system," and gave suffrage to citizens of 18 within the first 24 days of his administration, and he predicts that Georgia's forthcoming new Constitution will prohibit "the already discarded poll tax."

"It isn't good to hear the screams against abolishing the poll tax," he says, "coming from the politicians who are afraid that the men overseas fighting for their right to scream may vote them out of sinecures."

In denouncing "lazy government" in the South, Governor Arnall points to the long fight against high freight rates in the South set by the Interstate Commerce Commission. When the I. C. C. declined to lower the high rates, year after year, he charges, "our officials shrugged their shoulders, exhibited the palms of their empty hands and in too many instances went back into their dozing."

Governor Arnall recalls that the U. S. Supreme Court, at his request, has agreed to sit as a jury to listen to the State of Georgia argue that the high discriminatory freight rates are depriving the South of her Constitutional rights, and then says:

"The Interstate Commerce Commission suddenly admits that

the setup is unfair. Suddenly, after all these years, it rules that beginning August 30, rates for the South shall drop 10 per cent, and rates for the North increase 10 per cent. Why? At last we are awake, fighting....

"We do not ask for industrial development, for example, at the expense of any other section of the country... but with the elimination of unfair and discriminatory freight rates, certain industries will inevitably come to the South—woolens, wood pulp, ceramics, plastics, metallurgy."

## Arnold Taking Spotlight

*Informers - Houston, Texas*  
Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia is fast taking the spotlight from other Southern Governors who have been making liberal statements and gestures in the recent past. In the July issue of Collier's magazine Georgia's youthful Governor has told Walter Davenport what he thinks about the so-called race problem in the South. And what he thinks about it is plenty. Listen at this from a Governor of the commonwealth called the "Cracker State:"

"The so-called race question is an economic one, not social. Pay the Negro good wages for his work, give him the opportunity to demonstrate his own capacity to learn, work and earn, give him his Constitutional rights and you have solved this distorted so-called race problem." If even a Southern Governor, whether it be Governor Arnall or someone else, puts that philosophy into practice in the South, that State will take the spotlight and the leadership from all other Southern States. It is history when a Southern Governor says "Give the Negro his Constitutional rights!"



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Oklahoma City, Okla.  
**OKLAHOMAN**  
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JUN 28 1945

## A Scientific Survey Of How Negroes Live

By EDITH JOHNSON

**F**OR the first time in the history of Oklahoma City a scientific study is to be made of conditions within the Negro population, a project sponsored by the Council of Social Welfare and endorsed by the Community Fund. The survey is to be conducted by five research specialists from the National Urban league, its chief objective the improvement of living and working conditions of Negroes.

First of its representatives from the league's department of research to arrive in Oklahoma City is J. Harvey Kerns who on Tuesday afternoon spoke to about 40 members of an advisory committee, including persons of both races, explaining the league's method of procedure.

He assured the group that the Urban league's research workers, who do not go into a community until invited to do so, have no desire to "show up" undesirable conditions. They have "no special creed, no special philosophy." They are not in search of facts that would tend to substantiate any league theory, their aim being to gather information about the economic and cultural life of Negroes and, in co-operation with the city's white population, strive to solve those programs that demand community attention.

That both white people and Negroes who shall be approached by the investigators will respond by giving them facts free from racial bias is confidently anticipated, for wise planning must rest upon the facts. Oklahoma City is one of five communities being studied this year, it being the policy of the league to survey only those towns where Negro population has increased noticeably during the war.

**A**LTHOUGH the public is pretty well acquainted with the work and aims of the National Association for the Improvement of the Colored People it has heard little in this part of the country about the Urban league, started in 1910 by a group of white women living in New York City who became interested in the welfare of Negro girls arriving in the city to seek work. As the scope of its interests and activities widened branches were established in other large centers, the headquarters in New York always insisting that every branch shall be governed by an interracial board.

Although the league's major concern is with the economic life of Negroes it is also interested in health, housing, education and recreation, with community agencies and social work among the colored people.

As the investigators who are financed by the Rockefeller Foundation undertake their work in

Oklahoma

this city they will visit leaders of both races and make inquiries of others by means of questionnaires. They will ask about opportunities for the employment of Negroes, about hospital facilities and what type of services are provided for the tuberculous and venereally infected. They will go into the schools to ask about delinquency, truancy and tardiness. They want to know about Negro library facilities and what sort of books are in demand. They are interested in Negro church life and they will make a careful survey of Negro recreation.

**V**ISITING white employers, the specialists will ask for frank statements as to their problems with Negro workers, and they will want to find out what progress Negroes are making in awareness of their responsibilities toward employers and jobs. They will inquire not only concerning the efforts of white people to contribute toward the solution of Negro problems, but what the Negroes themselves are doing for their solution. As there have been but few and infrequent instances of inter-racial friction in this city the investigators should be able to carry through their project with gratifying results.

Wise management of problems growing out of the conditions under which Negroes live and work and the relations between the two races is not only a matter of justice to the Negro, but one of self-interest to the white people and one of patriotism, likewise.

Here is a challenge to the intelligent, right-minded citizen of either race, one that if met rationally will be of advantage to all.



# Okla. City Negroes Losing Wartime Gains

*Daily Worker*  
By ALLAN SHAW

Figures show the sharp lag in health conditions:

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 16.—A survey on the social and economic conditions of the Negro population of Oklahoma City has just been completed by the National Urban League for the Oklahoma City Council of Social Welfare. Oklahoma City is the fourth city in which such a study has been conducted.

The Urban League report points out that 85 percent of the Negro labor force in this city "consists of workers engaged in occupations which are least secure and lowest paid." The 1940 census reported that more than 90 percent of employed Negro men and women were in domestic employment, personal service jobs and in unskilled labor groups. Cutbacks have already almost entirely eliminated wartime gains in industrial employment of Negroes.

Sanitary conditions in many Negro areas were found to be a menace to health, because of the inactivity of the health inspectors. Among the recommendations on health are: establishment of a Negro health center with Negro doctors and nurses; that staff and courtesy privileges be extended to Negro doctors at hospitals; that a new Negro hospital be built. No mention is made of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill and what it would provide.

Out of 1,047 city employees (excluding school teachers) fewer than 60 were Negroes. Oklahoma City is one of the few cities in the United States where so few Negroes are employed in the post office.

The report points out that "the largest and most effective unions with which Negroes are identified are the Packing House and other CIO locals."

Among the recommendations are proposals for a conference on employment in city and federal governments, a plea to utility companies to "liberalize their employment policies with reference to Negroes," the employment of Negro bus and street car operators, and consultations with progressive labor leaders on extending rights of Negroes in unions and industry. Glaringly absent is any mention of the Fair Employment Practices Committee or the need of establishing a permanent FEPC.

On housing, the Urban League report points out that the Negro population is living in deteriorated areas and/or in sub-standard houses. "This is due partly to the low income of Negroes and partly because they are restricted by covenants and public resistance."

The report points out that "no federal public housing projects were brought to Oklahoma City because of the resistance of real estate dealers."

It is suggested that a Metropolitan Housing Agency be established to work with private builders and the Federal Public Housing Authority.

The report itself slurs the Negro people by proposing "the removal, in the interest of peaceful race relations and good public policy, of white female personnel now operating in the Negro sections."

11-17-45



LAURINBURG, N. C. EXCHANGE  
JUNE 28, 1945

## The Negro And The Post War Period

Laurinburg Institute Agriculture Teacher Makes Study of Outlook for Colored People in This County.

By I. H. Smith)

Some of our boys will be discharged from the armed forces and will return home. Some will be transferred to the South Pacific. Many will be mustered out—a different boy from the fellow you knew—years older and with a slant on life that will be difficult for you to understand. Minds and bodies will be badly warped and twisted. These boys have risked all that we may enjoy the American way of life. Have we made preparations to receive them? Or are we now doing so? What plans or program have we set up to help these boys become adjusted to civilian life again? Are we basking in the sunshine of "war prosperity" and saying "Let the other fellow do it?"

I have just completed a survey of the county, not too accurate by any means, but close enough to give an idea of what we have to face in post war days. Checking from best possible sources it was found that about 1377 (colored) individuals have left this county to join the Armed Forces, and to engage in war production work. Ages of these persons range from 14 to 50 years, grade level from 1 to 11 years. Only 6 with college training or above. About 1200 of these individuals were employed in agriculture or related agricultural occupations, 177 in other occupations. There are about 880 men and women in all phases of the armed service and 497 engaged in ship building, air plane manufacturing, munitions works and textiles.

It is estimated that possibly 1000 of these persons will return to Scotland county and according to information recently received from their families about 870 are interested in agriculture or re-

lated occupations, while 130 will seek livelihood in other channels of industry.

About 500 will desire more educational opportunity and about 370 of this number will seek educational improvement in agriculture. A check on places where these 370 might secure some apprentice training revealed the following:

There are 114 Negro farm owners, 986 tenants and 763 croppers now operating in Scotland county. The farms range from 10 to 250 acres. The crops produced are of a variety, such as corn, which is below average yield, wheat also below average, cotton above average in 1944, tobacco also above the average in 1944. Hay crops about an average yield and sweet potatoes below average.

On some of these farms there is a chance for training in the production and management of such crops. There are about 25 farms

in the county that can be purchased at a reasonable cost. There are three boys returning from war, according to information from relatives, who anticipate going into partnership with their parents in buying farms. There are a large number of places for tenants and laborers, and the price of products and of labor is indeed attractive and inviting.

Checking the school enrollment over a period of 5 years, 1940 to 1945, there has been an average attendance of 590 girls and 400 boys, or a total of 990 students. 85 percent of these students receive their support from the farm entirely, ten percent partially from the farm, and 5 percent elsewhere.

Adding all these figures we get an over-all picture of problems that will confront us in this post war era—the returning of service men for jobs and a chance to further their education, plus the large number of children now of school age, and the pre-school age youngsters, to be molded and guided into responsible citizenship.

Shall we view this situation casually and pass it on? Many returning service men, war workers, as well as young people now in school, will not continue their education if they do not have definite vocational training offered along with other subjects.

Herein is a challenge for Scotland county leaders — teachers,

preachers and laymen alike. Dare to break away from custom, convention and tradition. Lend a hand to that poor, baffled boy trying to adjust himself to civilian life again. He will need guidance. We owe it to our boys and to Him who said, "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these my little ones, ye have done it unto me."



# Famous Blind Humanitarian Hits Jim Crow

*N.Y. Amsterdam News  
6-9-45*

## Helen Keller Scores Neglect Of the Negro Blind In Mississippi Training

JACKSON, Miss., (ANP)—Miss Helen Keller, world famous blind humanitarian and welfare worker, saw the neglect of the Negro blind in Mississippi and asked for a school for their training on a visit here last week.

In a strong plea for a new school for the blind after a visit to the white blind institution, where the children have been studying in a building condemned by the Grand Jury, Miss Keller said: "The colored are also blind, and are denied a school of their own in this state. This is still a democracy and the colored blind need help as much as the whites."

In her opening remarks, Mrs. Keller said: "I had planned not to visit schools for the blind and deaf on this tour of army hospitals, but when I heard of the plans for the building of a new school for the Blind in Mississippi their well being tugged at my heart and I am here to speak in their behalf."

Miss Keller, accompanied by her secretary of 30 years, Miss Polly Thompson, was here on a visit to Foster General hospital.



# Deplorable Conditions Found by Legislators at Academy for Blind

## Committee Recommends Prompt Improvements This Summer

By C. E. GREGORY

Conditions are so deplorable at the State Academy for the Blind in Macon that they should be corrected this summer and not delayed for a postwar project, the State Legislative Examining Committee reported to Governor Arnall Monday.

The building used to house blind Negroes was branded as "a three-story building that is a definite firetrap" in the report of the investigating committee. It was recommended that the building be sold to the city of Macon so that the land can be used as the site for a Negro high school.

"The school is very much in need of cold storage and freezer locker facilities," the report said. "The superintendent is compelled to take his meat to distant places to preserve it, necessitating a 25-mile round trip.

"Toilet and bathing facilities should be greatly improved and enlarged. As we went into the dormitories we found that the children do not have cabinets or closets for their clothes. These blind children must keep their soiled clothes in the same suitcase with their clean clothes under their beds.

"We find that the dining room, kitchen and back porch needs a new roof, that the stage in the auditorium is inadequate and even lacks curtains. The hospital needs equipment and the building should be replaced or renovated. The president is limited to one large room for himself, his wife and two children. We recommend that a home be erected for the president, costing approximately \$7,500.

"Recreation space is needed for the children. The buildings need painting throughout. At some places new steps are needed. The equipment used for teaching is worn out and antiquated. The school needs at least 20 new double desks and about a dozen pianos for teaching music.

"We think it is the obligation of the state to provide proper clothing for children who cannot buy the necessities of life.

"We do not believe it is the in-

tention of the state for unfortunate blind children to have facilities so far inferior to those found in the average high school in Georgia, but from our observation of this institution we believe that this is true today."



## The Changing South

*The Black Dispatch* 9-22-45 *Oklahoma City, Okla.*  
Thousands of Negroes are leaving the South, and many of them will never return. This conclusion is reached by the Black Dispatch following an automobile trip made by this writer last week across the state of Texas, and through northern Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Arkansas and Tennessee. During this trip every white and black person who was hitch-hiking and wanted to ride was taken aboard and it is from the mouths of these citizens, native to the soil of the South, we secured information regarding the ferment in thought and action down in Dixie.

Despite the fact that high wages and economic prosperity swept over the nation during the past four years, many southern leaders dissipated their time shooing away industrial enterprise. This happened in Congressman Rankin's adopted town of Tupelo, Mississippi, where a war defense industry, according to a prominent Negro of that city, was placed some forty miles away from Tupelo, with Tupelo white citizens arguing that war wages would ruin their Negro maids, yard boys and cooks. We saw four Negro maids leading white children down the street, within one block in Vicksburg, and inquiry at one of the prominent business establishments down town elicited the information that for this service the average Negro maid is still receiving from six to eight dollars per week. One can readily see that in this section there will be a determined fight to prevent enactment of President Truman's unemployment relief, providing \$25 for 26 weeks. The South has always fought minimum wage scales, and has seen to it that in all labor legislation that has passed "outside workers, agriculturists and domestics" have been excluded.

With this in mind, Southern leaders have organized the Southern Industrial Council, which in fact is nothing more than an affiliate of the National Manufacturers Association, fighting all types of liberal legislation. The kinship of the two organizations can be readily understood when it is pointed out that the Southern Industrial Council is today fighting labor unions, full employment legislation, and unemployment legislation that would grant workers thrown into idleness by reason of the cessation of war activities a half year salary at \$25 per week. Any proposal that would give the ordinary laborer surcease from the rapacity of management is violently opposed. The Southern Industrial Council is also extending invitations to northern industrialism to locate down in Dixie, offering to supply cheaper labor than can be secured in other sections. Thus does faulty southern vision destroy the potential spending power of the section through the narrow-gaged glasses through which it gazes upon its traditional semi-peonage system in the rural sections and its poorly paid domestic servants in urban communities.

One sees Negro girls and boys doing most every sort of inconsequential task down South, and this operates to destroy compulsory educational requirements in the separate schools. In Meridian, Mississippi, although school is in session, one may see girls and boys in their teens working around stores, driving teams, cutting grass, nursing children, and scores of others, waiting on call, doing nothing more profitable than sitting on their own door stoop. A truant officer, attempting to force Negro children to attend school, would be just as unpopular and dangerous below the Ohio river as a discharged stool pigeon. Reaction from this phi-

losophy to worship "dollar made" democracy is reflected among poor whites also, who are forced to go to school in hot summer months, in order to give added time for fall work gathering crops. When it is recalled that Gunner Myrdal points out in "The American Dilemma" that white people in Alabama and Georgia, whose annual cash income is not to exceed \$500, hire Negro servants, the evils in the South's labor problem is fully exposed. How much money do you suppose a man who makes only \$500 cash dollars per year, could pay to his domestic servant? It can also be seen how necessary it is to maintain a system that places Negro girls and boys near the beckoning hand of peonage rather than around the door of a school house.

This desire of the South to maintain low wage scales was reflected in the recent draft. One Alabama plantation owner, while making an address at Tuskegee before extension workers, some of whom are employed in Oklahoma, is recently reported to have been surprised when advised at Tuskegee that a half million Negroes were in the armed services and that there was a labor shortage. "Why I have not lost a nigger," he told the astonished extension workers. "I don't allow any of those government fellows down on my farms. I make out my niggers' draft cards, and make all of their reports for them. I haven't lost a nigger."

The extension worker who reported this incident to us is a very reliable and conservative man, and he said that this remark was made openly and boldly, and that this plantation owner, when he had concluded a speech of this character was shocked almost out of his senses when he ended his address without receiving any applause or favorable reaction.

At Atlanta we heard one union man, who organizes laundry workers, make a statement that should be of interest to all Negroes who hesitate to join labor unions, but who are desirous of doing something to advance their opportunities to secure wage increases. This union organizer said Negro women in Tennessee who had hitherto been paid 16 cents per hour in the laundry industry had been advanced step by step until now they received 39c per hour. A similar story was told of the helpfulness of the teamsters union in New Orleans. In both instances, according to these union officials, they were able to secure these wage advances because the white and black workers were organized together. Previously, if the whites refused to work for 17c per hour, the Negro workers would, and vice versa.

Thousands of Negroes who are leaving Dixie are bringing about many changed conditions. Thousands of former cotton plantations have been seeded down to grass, and cattle raising begun. We learned that dairy farming and the raising of beef cattle is becoming quite popular in certain sections where Negro men are dissatisfied and have left 40-cent hourly wage scales when in urban centers industrial laborers are enjoying a \$1.50 hourly stipend, and asking for \$2.00. The news has slowly drifted out to rural America regarding unseemly wage differentials.



# THIS MORNING



by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES

*The Birmingham Age*

"The greatest resource of the South is human, and we must preserve it at any cost."

HUTCHINSON, Kan. — From North Carolina, where their finest manufacture is human beings, a genuine Southern liberal warns of a loss greater than cotton or social security:

BY D. HIDDEN RAMSEY  
General Manager, The Asheville Citizen-Times

The most important problem confronting the South is not the freight rate differential which is by way of being eliminated, or the poll tax voting qualification which is being elevated by agitators into a national issue, or the need for quickened industrial growth which is being stressed by both social reformers and hard-headed business men. The most vital question which faces this section and which will have a profound effect on its future is simply this: How many of the young men who have left the South to serve in the armed forces will return to the South to make their homes and fortunes when they are discharged?

The South, in common with the rest of the nation, has sent approximately one-eleventh of its total population into the armed forces. This represents the greatest migration—albeit temporary—which this region has ever known.

Most of the men who have gone from this section to serve the nation in the hour of its greatest peril are young men. Their ways in life have not become set. Their roots have not been sunk deep in any soil. They have not developed responsibilities to tether them to one spot. Their very youth makes them the masters of their geography. These young men out of the South have traveled extensively during their military careers. Most of them can say with the old Ulysses:

"Much have I seen and known: cities of men  
And manners, climates, councils, governments."

They have seen other sections of this broad land, its mighty cities, its fertile acres, its towering mountains. They have visited foreign countries and have

come to know foreign people. War has broadened their horizons, loosened the ties of youth and made them more cosmopolitan and less provincial in their views and prejudices.

It is foolish for the South to assume that all of its young men will come like homing pigeons back to their former communities when they are home from their wars. The First World War produced a shift in the country's population. There is every reason for believing that the conflict, recently ended, will have a still more marked effect on the distribution of the country's people. These young men are, of course, the very flower of our youth and the promise of our future. They will be our industrial and educational and professional and agricultural leaders a generation hence. We cannot lose any large number of them without impoverishing this region. If we can keep them in this section, we need have no worry about the South of 30 years hence.

Can we hold all of our young men after they have been discharged, even adding recruits from other sections? The correct answer to that question rests in very large measure with the various communities of the South. We can hold our young men only if their own communities provide them with those opportunities which they seek and which they are justified in expecting. These veterans do not want gratuities. They covet only a chance to fit quickly and usefully and prosperously into civilian life.

The future of the South will be fixed these next few months as the nation demobilizes the men whom it called into its armed forces. There never was a greater demand for wise and sympathetic leadership in the hundreds of communities which make up this section. The greatest resource of the South is human and we must conserve it at every cost. We cannot become a great section by being the nursery, rather than the arena of great men.



## Doctor Johnson's Thesis

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

The message of Dr. Charles S. Johnson, eminent sociologist and author, before the Hungry Club luncheon guests in Atlanta last Tuesday should prove an inspiring revelation to white southerners on the worth and position of the Negro in the South's economy. 5-10-45

The Negro spends 100 billion dollars annually for run-down, uninhabitable shacks in the South. They spend two and one-half billion dollars each year in support of little business, without which they would promptly close doors. Negroes provide the sinews and backbone for agriculture and cotton tenancy. "Without the Negro," Dr. Johnson stated, "there would be no race problem in the South. Without the race problem southern agriculture would have to become mechanized." And most significant of all, we believe, is the point he makes about immigrant labor. He says: "a total absence of the Negro from the South would mean that immigrant labor would have to be imported. This would mean that the thrifty immigrant, goaded by adject want and poverty stretching back over many years, would bring to play all of his ingenuity and resourcesfulness which in time would result in white southerner being pushed out of the entire picture. And, in the words of Dr. Johnson, "if Negroes migrated North, it would be a matter of about 10 years before the poor southern white worker would be occupying the same status the Negro occupies today in the South."

Dr. Johnson's pronouncement is sound and he speaks out of a rich background of research, study and intimate contact with every phase of Negro life in the South and over the Nation. The question now is whether the South can profit from such advice.

## Growth Of New Negro In Deep South

Chicago Defender 8-17-45

## Seen In Significant NAACP Parley

By JOHN LEFLORE

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

ATLANTA, Ga. — An encouraging sign that a new Negro is developing in the South was manifested by the serious mien of Negro leaders from five southern states who gathered here the past week-end to attend a rather unusual kind of school—a school offering no degrees but perhaps something infinitely more important—race leadership training. Negro Atlanta was host to this different kind of an "intellectual" meeting, projected as a far-sighted step to prepare southern Negroes to meet wisely and sanely the problems which may develop affecting the struggle of the Negro to attain full citizenship rights.

Leadership training courses to cover all sections of the nation were designed by the national office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in New York. Such courses

have been offered in recent weeks, two-day session—a discussion of in New York City San Francisco, the Negro's problems and how to Cleveland, Indianapolis and Kansas meet them. 3-17-45

City as regional meetings. But because of the more acute nature of the Negro's problems in the South and the fact that about three-fourths of the group live below the Mason-Dixon line, the southern meeting afforded a deeper significance. 3-17-45

### Discuss Techniques

Hard-working and dynamic Director of Branches Ella J. Baker, and Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall, spearheaded the discussions. Others from the national office were Mrs. Irvine Ming, and Donald Jones, assistant field secretaries, and Miss Lucille Black of the department of branches.

Col. A. T. Walden, prominent Atlanta attorney, opened the meeting last Saturday morning at the Butler Street Y.M.C.A., with an address of welcome from the citizens of the community. Miss Baker immediately thereafter launched into the business of the

On the subject of political pressure she cautioned Negroes to cast overboard party emblems and vote for men who indicate a stand for justice and right for Negroes. The N.A.A.C.P. director of branches also told her audience that "Negroes need to be instructed on how to register and vote, and what to do and when to do it." She urged that Negro newspapers and magazines, as well as the daily press and other periodicals be read "to keep informed."

Miss Baker added that collaboration with whites whenever possible should be sought in the effort to mitigate the problems of the Negro. 2-17-45

### Discuss Voting Curbs

The Saturday afternoon session was devoted to discussions on educational inequalities and voting restrictions. Discussion leaders were Mrs. Grace Hamilton, executive secretary of the Atlanta Urban League, and Emory Jackson, Birmingham newspaperman and executive secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. branch there.

John Hope III, a representative of the Southern regional office of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, and Mrs. R. Hall of the Atlanta office of the Office of Price Administration also spoke.

Mrs. Hamilton suggested use of one of the three methods, arousing of public opinion, political action or court procedure, in the effort to seek better schools and other civic improvements for Negroes. She revealed that Atlanta has provided throughout the years only one-sixth as much money for Negro education as has been given for education of whites, although Negroes have consistently comprised about one-third of the population. She said that despite "the disadvantages and difficulties surrounding the Negro child's struggle to get an education, ten per cent more Negro children stay in school throughout the year than whites."

Jackson spoke of the voting situation confronting Negroes throughout the South. He said that the greatest obstacles to Negro voting in the Deep South are the Board of Registrars and the white primary. He urged a new determination upon the part of Negroes to attack through legal procedure the "vicious" and "unlawful" methods used by Boards of Registrars to prevent colored people from registering as voters.

### Tells of Intimidation

The effort of Jefferson county deputies to intimidate him and those he had carried to the Board of Registrars' office to register was related by the militant Jackson. He told of how the officers came into the office and brandished their pistols in an unsuccessful attempt to frighten the colored people from the place. 3-17-45

The Saturday night session and banquet held in the auditorium of the Savoy Hotel was all Thurgood Marshall's. The brilliant N.A.A.C.P. special counsel outlined steps to be taken to prepare cases of discrimination for court action. He explained in detail the necessity of court action in combating police brutality, discrimination in public facilities, city parks, and playgrounds. He also scored segregation and discrimination in inter-state travel, and outlined procedure to be followed in fighting job discrimination.

Delegates present represented the states of South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia.

## Miami Negroes

Chicago Defender

## Swim Unharmed

In Test Of Rights

MIAMI, Fla. — Jim Crow was drowned on the beaches of Miami this week when a group of Negro citizens, 60 strong, bathed in the surf unmolested in a test of their citizenship rights.

The bathers, who informed Sheriff Jimmy Sullivan of their intentions in advance, splashed about in the Atlantic along a county-owned beach strip.

White police officers, called by neighboring residents, went to the scene and questioned the group, but made no attempt to arrest them. 5-19-45

The bathers arrived in a motorcade, stayed about an hour and departed. A sheriff's deputy stated that he knew of the Negroes' plans, but knew of no law under which they would be subject to arrest.

Judge Henderson, president of the Negro Citizens' Service League, said the affair was arranged under the auspices of the league "strictly as a test of our rights."

"We weren't arrested, so as far as I know we will be going to the beach from now on," he commented. "If they arrest us, we will appeal to the courts." 5-19-45

The league president explained that Negroes have no bathing beach available to them now and plans for establishing one on Virginia Beach have shown no progress.

He declared that the league's move was not taken with the idea of causing trouble, but only as a step to obtain some bathing beach facilities.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.  
P. M.

Circ. D. 137,100 - S. 136,912

SEP 20 1945

### Apology

In a report on the Florida hurricane PM on Monday printed that "225 persons and 800 Negroes" were homeless. This was a typographical error from a United Press dispatch in which the statement read "225 white persons and 800 Negroes." PM regrets both the error and, even more, that it unthinkingly followed the UP dispatch in making an uncalled for distinction between whites and Negroes.



# BEHIND The Journal + Guide HEADLINES Norfolk, Va. By ALBERT L. HINTON

## The South Stands To Benefit From A Higher Wage Rate 11-24-45

LESS THAN ONE month ago, while battling in a Senate Labor sub-committee against a bill designed to raise the current 40 cents minimum wage to 65 cents, and thence to 75 cents an hour after two years, Senator Ellender, Democrat, of Louisiana, figured that southern farmers would have to get "about \$1.25 a pound" for cotton to earn the equivalent of a 65 cent hourly wage in industry. Cotton was then selling for 25 cents per pound.



MR. HINTON

There may, or may not have been merit in Sen. Ellender's contention that passage of the legislation would be disastrous for small southern industries and for small farmers, and that a 65-cent minimum wage for industry would make it impossible for the farmer to hire help, but the suspicion was aroused that the Gentleman from Louisiana was simply aiming his guns again at the Fair Labor Standards Act which he has fought tooth and nail ever since its adoption.

At any rate, almost simultaneously with his battle against the measure, three other distinguished southerners were putting up just as forceful an argument in its favor on the grounds that it would aid materially in raising southern living standards.

Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, told the Senate Labor sub-committee: "I am for a minimum wage just as high as our economy can stand."

\* \* \* \*

"A 65-cent minimum wage would be one of the stepping stones to a new, advancing, post-war South," Dr. Clark Foreman, of Atlanta, president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, told the committee.

Dr. Broadus Mitchell, director of research, International Ladies Garment Worker Union, asserted that, "Southern wage standards have been a drag upon standards elsewhere."

The least that can be said of Senator Ellender, then, is that he was slightly off the beam. Let's examine the record.

High death rates, disease, malnutrition, insufficient medical and hospital care—great human suffering. These are the inevitable concomitants of a low wage policy which has turned the South—potentially one of the richest regions of the United States—into a state of poverty and retardation from which it is just beginning to emerge. Ample evidence supporting these facts has been known for years both in and out of the Halls of Congress.

Let's take a look at health conditions in the South. Studies by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and labor and public organizations, reveal shocking proof of the South's ill health. An analysis of Selective Service rejection reports revealed that rejections were 15 per cent higher in the 13 south-

ern states than in other sections of the country.

11-24-45  
This disturbing state of affairs is supported by the fact that there are only 9.4 doctors per thousand people in the South, as compared with 14.9 per cent in other regions. There were only 2.2 general hospital beds per 1,000 people in the South, while other areas had nearly twice as many.

A comparison of the death rates in the South and the rest of the nation adds additional strength to the argument that only with higher wages can people eat better and thus achieve better health. Tuberculosis claimed 45.9 of 100,000 deaths in America in 1940, but in the Southeast the figure was 56, and in the Southwest, 63.1.

Influenza and pneumonia deaths were 70.3 per 100,000 for the nation, but in the Southeast—where the climate is warmest—the rate was 90. Pellagra deaths, caused by the lack of proper food, resulted in 1.6 deaths in the nation, but in the Southeast the rate was 400% higher, 6.5.

"The Southern Patriot," organ of the Southern Conference, in reviewing southern health stated: "The absence of modern hospitals in so many southern areas is again the result of low income of its people. Rural areas lack the corporate and individual wealth that provides ample tax funds, generous endowments and full payment of fees and charges."

Hearings before a Senate sub-committee on education and labor have bulwarked labor's contention that the minimum wage—in all sections of America—must be raised if the nation's health rate is not to drop even lower than it is. Illnesses and physical disabilities are per se more acute and more disastrous among workers with low wages than in the higher income groups. But the South remains the No. 1 health problem.

And the reason, as "The Southern Patriot" summed up so forcefully, is this: "The poverty of the South is the basic cause of the ill health of the South. The southern people are—poorly fed, poorly clad, poorly housed—



**Educator Says:****South Setting Pace for Nation**

ATLANTA, Ga.—Miss Mabel Carney, professor emeritus of Teachers College, Columbia University, told an audience at the Atlanta University Summer School last week that "the South is setting the pace for the rest of the country in social, educational and economic progress, despite its sharecropping system, its unsatisfactory race relations and the low per capita income."

Miss Carney believes that the South's progress may be attributed to the fact that it is willing to look at itself as a region. "The regionalism idea," she pointed out, "has been developed and is a distinctive contribution to social and economic planning."

She is convinced that for some purposes the mid-western States would do well to study regional problems as has been done in the South.

**How to End the Civil War**

BY SPRAGUE HOLDEN

IT TAKES only a single letter in "The Voice of the People" about United States regionalism to set off a North-South Donnybrook.

"Ex-Southerner" takes his pen in hand to state what a benighted hell-hole exists below the Mason and Dixon Line. "Proud Northerner" agrees, adding a few choice adjectives. "Rebel" and "Fair-Minded" swing from the floor and the battle is on. Of recent months most such Free Press "Voice" contributors have taken the poll tax as a springboard, pro and con, but the variations on the theme are endless.

Pride of State or region is part of the strength of the United States. It is one more example of the strong unity that can come from diversity.

It is only when such pride becomes mixed with other matters that it becomes dangerous. It became lethally mixed with the economics of cotton and slavery in the mid-19th Century and the Civil War was the result. It is mixed somewhat with racial questions at present—the poll tax issue having largely a racial basis. But, comparatively speaking, discussion is in good temper.

Name-calling, griping, pointing the finger of scorn and beating the drum of local pride are

all components of the good old American way of getting acquainted with the neighbors.

IT IS ALSO American custom that when abuses and delinquencies of whatever sort become intolerable aroused citizens set about to change them.

In government, we "turn the rascals out" or put them in jail if their sins demand it. Michigan has done both and so has nearly every other political subdivision. Why, runs the question in many "Voice" letters, doesn't the South do likewise—and do it effectively?

Why doesn't it get rid of the poll tax? Why doesn't it emerge from the middle ages? Why doesn't it treat all its peoples like human beings?

GOV. ELLIS ARNALL, of Georgia, is a man who is giving solid answers to many of these questions. At the recent Governors Conference at Mackinac Island he added to the education of us damyankees by explaining his program for Georgia. In Collier's for July 28 he adds some more to our education.

It is not a simple story which he tells; nor is it a very happy one. But it is a story that holds out hope that some day there will be an end to the Civil War, both in respect to a fairer shake for all Southerners and to misunderstandings between the North and the South.

Arnall took office in the wake of the ineffable Gene Talmadge, next to the late Huey Long the most unsavory recent example of political dictators, Southern style.

Under Talmadge, Arnall says, "Georgia, to the outsider, meant chain gangs, peonage, pardon racketeering, Ku-Klux, crackerism, race prejudice and bankruptcy." It was Talmadge's attempt to add the school system to a dictatorship which included practically everything else that finally ended his reign.

The people "finally awakened . . . to the fact that he was their enemy." They turned him out in disgust.

A NEW legislature began, with Arnall in 1942, a 24-day period without precedent anywhere.

The governor's personal control of state finances was ended without a dissenting vote. The schools were restored to a democratic regime. The pardon racket was killed. The prison system was reformed. Eighteen-year-olds were given the franchise. A new State constitution was drawn up—to be voted upon next month.

Later came the State's abolition of the polltax. Under Arnall's leadership, the ICC broke the freight-rate stranglehold that has done so much to pauperize the

**South**

South. Schedules were revised beginning Aug. 30 and Arnall is preparing to argue the case before the Supreme Court.

The South, says Georgia's governor, "is waking up."

It is awakening because its citizens became disgusted with what they had, and began to understand that the only way they could get anything different was through their own efforts.

"It isn't good," declares Arnall, "to hear people talking about States' Rights without mention of States' Responsibilities to their citizens and to our common country."

He offered Georgia action instead of self-pity, economic common sense instead of race hate, a way out of the morass of poverty instead of more floundering.

He spoke in terms of the pocket-book. All the reforms he urged and the measures he proposed were aimed at changing one basic factor from which most of the South's troubles spring. This factor is that average incomes for Southern families are just about one-half what they are in Northern States.

The people responded, as they always will.

THE NORTH, however, is in no position to pat its back hair like a well-heeled dowager and dispatch nosegays of congratulations southward. Our problems here may be somewhat different in kind from many of those of the Southern States, but they are not different in degree. No Northern commonwealth can afford to be complacent, or patronizing, nor can any Northern city.

In pleading his state's case (and the South's) so effectively and in detailing what is being done, the young Governor of Georgia is serving up in his person and in his program an example that can serve well any State, section or City with the wit to observe and understand.

**Arnall Charges Black Dispatch Poverty Cause Of Race Problem**

Give Whites and Negroes Good Wages and It Will Be Solved, He Says

All of the South's current ills are a direct result of pov-

erty, the race problem included, Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia charges in a signed article in the current issue of Collier's, in which he denounces lazy southern government, the poll tax, and political demagogues who arouse racial hatreds.

In forecasting that the South is soon to take her place in the industrial world and "achieve her proper destiny," Governor Arnall declares that any plan to cure the South of its ills must, as "its first order of business," bring about a higher average income for both whites and Negroes.

"The South has suffered with inferiority," Governor Arnall says. "The average American annual income at the time of Pearl Harbor was \$604. In the South it was \$314. The average Negro income was considerably lower. No plan to cure the South of its ills will succeed which does not make that differential its first order of business . . ."

"The so-called race question is an economic one, not social. Pay the Negro good wages for his work, give him the opportunity to demonstrate his own capacity to learn, work and earn, give him his Constitutional rights and you have solved this distorted so-called race problem. Only the demagogue tries to make political capital of social equality, of racial intermarriage."

Governor Arnall predicts that once the South becomes "genuinely prosperous, so that there is economic opportunity for every citizen, white and black, the two races will live on friendly terms." He then charges that the South's low income is responsible for squalid housing, inadequate diet, the disease and high mortality rate of the Negro citizen.

The Georgia governor calls ex-Governor Eugene Talmadge, whom he defeated at the polls, a "dictator" and "more than anything else a rabble rouser," and declares that "the South has at times given the rest of the country reason to think of some of her governors as clowns and of some of her legislatures as dominated by charlatans and scoundrels."

The Georgia legislature, he recalls, took dictatorial powers from the governor, killed the "pardon racket," reformed the "infamous prison system," and gave suffrage to citizens of 18 within the first 24 days of his administration, and he predicts that Georgia's forthcoming new constitution will "prohibit the 'already discarded poll tax.'"

"It isn't good to hear the screams against abolishing the poll tax," he says, "coming from the politicians who are afraid that the men overseas fighting for their right to scream may vote them out of sinecures."

In denouncing "lazy government" Governor Arnall points to the long fight against high freight rates in the South as set by the Interstate Commerce Commission. When the ICC declined to lower the high rates, year after year, he charges, "our officials shrugged their shoulders, exhibited the palms of their empty hands and in too many instances went back into their doings."

Governor Arnall recalls that the U. S. Supreme Court, at his request, has agreed to sit as a jury to listen to the State of Georgia argue that the high and discriminatory freight rates are depriving the South of her Constitutional rights, and then says:

"The Interstate Commerce Commission suddenly admits that the setup is unfair. Suddenly, after all these years, it rules that beginning August 30, rates for the South shall drop ten per cent, and rates for the North increase ten per cent. Why? At last we are awake, fighting . . ."

"We do not ask for industrial development, for example, at the expense of any other section of the country . . . but with the elimination of unfair and discriminatory freight rates, certain industries will inevitably come to the South—woolens, wood pulp, ceramics, plastics, metalurgy."



# The South At Last Has A New Type Spokesman

AFTER the rantings of the BILBO-RANKIN-EASTLAND ilk in the political sphere, the honest and forward-looking declarations of Governor ARNALL of Georgia on questions basic to the problems of the South come like a breath of fresh air in a room made oppressive by foul and fetid air. There are still enough spiritual descendants of the BLEASE-VARDAMAN-"COTTON ED" SMITH tribe about to gag and shame real Americans, and the pity too long has been that there were none of comparable political stature in or from the South to tell them off and to balance the scales.

In the issue of Collier's out last week, Governor ARNALL said many vitally important things (see resume of his article in our front page news story), but of them all the two that needed most to be said by some one of his race and authority were these:

(a) The so-called race question is an economic one, not social.

(b) Only the demagogue tries to make political capital of social equality, of racial intermarriage.

The enlightened chief executive of Georgia explained the first quoted declaration by simple statements of cold fact and sound logic.

The cold fact: "The average American annual income at the time of Pearl Harbor was \$604. In the South it was \$314. The average Negro income was considerably lower."

The sound logic: "No plan to cure the South of its ills will succeed which does not make that differential its first order of business. As long as a large segment of our population is so far down the economic scale, the South will not thrive."

There are still people, among them politicians and office holders, who play the demagogic role even to the extent of killing projects to pave Negro streets or provide a decent, fireproof school building, by asking of supporters of such projects: "Would you have your daughter marry a Negro?" It makes no difference to such demagogues how much they are asked: "What in heaven's name is the connection between paved streets and interracial marriage?"

But Governor ARNALL is no such demagogue. He says: "Let's not confuse ourselves and the issue with such absurdities. And let's make very sure that those who for one reason or another try to confuse us with such claptrap do not stop us of the South in the job that lies immediately ahead."

"Pay the Negro good wages for his work," he says, "give him the opportunity to demonstrate his own capacity to learn, work, and earn, give him his constitutional rights, and you have solved this distorted so-called race problem."

The governor of Georgia brings nothing new to the subject, except the courage to say the truth when so many others similarly situated keep quiet or play the demagogues' game for personal advantage or political advancement.

He has at a most appropriate time performed a public service of high order. It is even possible that the birth of the New South will be traced to his historic declaration of July, 1945.

## A NEW SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEEP SOUTH

Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia, who captured the governorship from Governor Talmadge and rescued the state from a band of demagogues, evil politicians and racketeers, publishes in "Colliers," July 28, a notable statement.

This statement is not remarkable because it reveals information hitherto unknown. The facts stated and the emphasis placed upon the interpretation of the facts are very familiar to newspaper readers. The significant aspect of the statement arises from the fact that here and now is a Governor of one of the states of the Deep South who faces realistically, the social, political and economic situation in his State, and dares to tell the truth about this situation as he sees it.

As one reads the statement, many vital questions remain unanswered. The reader should bear in mind that this editorial deals only with the statement as published.

For the convenience of the reader, the statement is divided into two parts: (1) Consideration of the political and economic situation in the state of Georgia, and in a large way throughout the Southland; (2) Race relations in Georgia.

"Economic evils and political obscurities"—The South has lived too much in the past. It is time she rejoined the Union. The narcotic that has been keeping the South in her twilight sleep is poverty. Her invasion of reality, her self-pity, her inertia has given her bad government, filled many important political offices with demagogues and incompetents. . . . thieves who went into office penniless emerged millionaires. . . . her ignorance begotten of poverty has been political capital. . . few forthright aggressive moves have been made to attack the source of Southern poverty, which in turn is responsible for all the ills afflicting the people. What Georgia has been, what she had forced upon her,

what she wants will come to all the Southern states. Georgia was ruled by a dictator whose chief ambition was self-perpetuation in office. The state was being pictured in the theater, in literature, in classrooms as Tobacco Road. Georgia to the outside world meant chain gangs, peonage, pardon racketeering, Ku Klux, crackerism, race prejudice, and bankruptcy. . . . Georgia, in financial ruin, had a state debt of thirty-six million dollars. . . . and then the man who held Georgia's destiny in the hollow of his hand, shrewd to see portents of political doom, dragged forth that last resort of so many misrepresentatives of Southern people—race prejudice. Georgia stung to swift action, gave an answer to this demagogue and to a skeptical nation.

"The South has suffered with inferiority. She has been humbly grateful for the crumbs from the North's table. The average American annual income at the time of Pearl Harbor was \$604. In the South it was \$314. The average Negro income was considerably lower. No plan to cure the South of its ills will succeed which does not make that differential its first order of business. As long as a large segment of our population is so far down the economic scale, the South will not thrive."

"Race relations—The so-called race question is an economic one, not social. Pay the Negro good wages for his work, give him the opportunity to demonstrate his capacity to learn, work and earn, give him his Constitutional rights and you have solved this distorted so-called race problem."

"Georgia's new constitution will write into her fundamental law the prohibition against the already discarded poll

tax. It will place but two qualifications upon the right of all Georgians to vote: that they shall be at least eighteen years old, and that they be literate enough to understand what they're voting on and about.

"Make the South genuinely prosperous, so that there is economic opportunity for every citizen—white and black, and the two races will live on friendly terms."



ORANGE, N. J.  
TRANSCRIPT

JUL 26 1945

Georgia Gov. Tel  
What Is Wrong WithBy ELLIS ARNALL  
Governor of Georgia

Georgia's brilliant young governor speaks out bluntly and courageously on the economic evils and political absurdities that have plagued his native Southland, and presents an aggressive plan for getting rid of them.

The South has lived too much in the past. It's time she rejoined the Union. For her political and economic reverie the South has been paying a huge price. We have been content to blame many of our woes on the rest of our country, particularly the North, the "damyankee."

Growing pains have not yet awakened all of our own populace here in the South to our great potentials. It's time to make a rude noise.

The narcotic that has been keeping the South in her twilight sleep is poverty. Her evasion of reality, her self-pity, her inertia have given her bad government, filled many of her important political offices with demagogues and incompetents. Here and there thieves who went into office penniless emerged millionaires—even went to prison for their racketeering.

## The Civil War

Since the Civil War the South has at times given the rest of the country reason to think of some of her governors as clowns and of some of her legislature as dominated by charlatans and scalawags.

To these latter misrepresentatives of the people of the South, her poverty and her ignorance begotten of poverty have been political capital. Men as mentally and spiritually benighted as the meanest illiterates voting for them have won and held office on no other issue than race and religious prejudice.

Intelligent and liberal minds in the South have gone about proclaiming all this for years. They have named education as its cure—education and then more education. This education they say

## South

would lose public place to the prancing demagogue. It would hold Georgia's destiny in the hollow of his hand, shrewd to see portents of political doom, dragged forth that last resource of so many misrepresentatives of the Southern people—race prejudice. Georgia, stung to swift action, gave her answer to this demagogue and to a skeptical nation. Tobacco Road government was overwhelmingly defeated.

## The Evidence

What they got was not what they wanted. It was—well, what they got. As governor of Georgia I shall cite my evidence in Georgia, ask you to listen to the people of my state. Not that this is Georgia's story alone. What Georgia has been, what she has had forced upon her, what she wants, will come to all the Southern states. So let's look at Georgia back in 1942.

Georgia was ruled by a dictator whose chief ambitions was self-perpetuation in office. The state was being pictured in the theater, in literature, in classrooms as Tobacco Road. Georgia to the outsider meant chain gangs, peonage, pardon racketeering, Ku-Klux, crackerism, race prejudice and bankruptcy.

It was a gross libel on the people, but only an overblown picture of their government. With undeveloped resources, Georgia, in financial ruin, had a state of thirty-six million dollars.

Within the next twelve months this debt will have been paid in full.

## Absurd Debt

A great part of this absurd debt was of a current or floating character. The legislature had surrendered all control of state finances to the governor, who was—believe it or not—authorized to spend the entire revenue of the state in any manner he chose.

It was my predecessor's bigoted efforts to impose his personal prejudices on Georgia's state school system that finally awakened the people to the fact that he was their enemy. Awakened, they began to take stock, they removed him from office. These people are still awake. My predecessor was more than anything else a rabble rouser. And he discovered that there was no rabble to amuse—anyway, less rabble than he had thought.

## Race Prejudice

Overnight an aroused public took inventory of itself, its financial plight, its government and governor. College students, their parents, school faculties, newspaper editors who saw in this governor-dictator's efforts to abolish academic freedom a direct attack on freedom of thought and speech, all entered the campaign of 1942 with an unprecedented energy.

And then the man who had held Georgia's destiny in the hollow of his hand, shrewd to see portents of political doom, dragged forth that last resource of so many misrepresentatives of the Southern people—race prejudice. Georgia, stung to swift action, gave her answer to this demagogue and to a skeptical nation. Tobacco Road government was overwhelmingly defeated.

Swiftly, too, the new legislature divested the governorship of dictatorial powers. Only a few old-school politicians failed to understand what was happening. In my campaign I said that to the best of my ability I'd be governor, not a dispenser of a personal political machine. I'd be governor in the governor's office.

But one morning after my election, there stood a group of politicians at the front door of the Mansion.

I reminded them of my campaign promise, to run the office of governor at the governor's office, in complete publicity. They went away. But some of those gentlemen do not yet understand.

Then they came to me with requests for favor, for acceptance of their candidates for certain appointive offices. They told me that they had helped make me governor and that they would presently send me to the U. S. Senate.

I told them that I had no political ambitions further than to lead my state as best I could out of her political disorder; that I didn't want to go to the Senate; that I didn't want even to succeed myself as governor; that all I wanted to do was to restore democratic order in a governmental setup that was most indulgently called chaos.

But some of these gentlemen are having trouble understanding this, too.

In the twenty-four days immediately after I took office, Georgia's legislature broke all emancipation records. They are days of which Georgia boasts, which would honor the annals of any state in the Union.

The result of this was that today Georgia was given back to its people. Thus, too, Georgia knows what it has to do if it is to free itself of its enemy—poverty—and all poverty's ill-begotten brood.

The whole South must do the same or be content with exploitation, poverty and lazy government.

## Inferiority

The South has suffered

with inferiority. She has been humbly grateful for the crumbs from the North's table. The average American annual income at the time of Pearl Harbor was \$604. In the South it was \$314. The average Negro income was much lower.

The so-called race question is an economic one, not social. Pay the Negro good wages for his work, give him the opportunity to demonstrate his own capacity to learn, work and earn, give him his Constitutional rights and you have solved this distorted so-called race problem.

## Poll-Tax

Georgia's new constitution will write into her fundamental law the prohibition against the already discarded poll tax.

Much of the bad government that we've had in the South can be traced to bigotry and intolerance, in office and out. In any society plagued by poverty, there are those living at a bare subsistence level whose antipathies can be fanned into flaming hatred of those of another race, whom they see as competitors.

The entire racial problem in the South is economic, at its roots. "The Race Problem," spelled with capitals, is something else again. It is an invention of unscrupulous demagogues, usually scalawags serving nonresident masters bent on exploiting Southern resources and Southern workers.

## Negro Mortality

Make the South so that every citizen, white and black, will live on friendly terms. The low income of the South is responsible for the squalid housing, the inadequate diet, the disease and high mortality rate of the Negro citizen. The ten million Negro citizens of the South are not a special, separate problem, any more than they are a special and separate resource. They are part of the South, and their economic welfare is a part of the section's economic welfare. They are entitled to decent housing, decent clothing, good schools, economic opportunity and justice. With every increase in the prosperity of the section, the friction between the races diminishes. Wipe out poverty, and the friction will become negligible. And the demagogue will be robbed of his chief stock in trade.

(Re-printed and summarized from Colliers Magazine, July 20, 1945)



# Reconversion And the Bilbos

WASHINGTON

Eight years ago a committee appointed by President Roosevelt turned in a report in which the South was called "the Nation's No. 1 economic problem."

Since that time considerable progress has been made in bringing the economic level of the South closer in line with the rest of the country. The war especially gave that progress tremendous stimulation. Army camps and posts dot the South as the Nation's great war-training ground. War industry brought a new influx of money; the number of industrial employees shot up rapidly.

Now suddenly the bottom has dropped out of that war-built economy no less than for the rest of the country. And in full swing, there is grave danger that the South is going to be squeezed, and squeezed badly, so that its industrial progress will be retarded gravely.

Which will be tragic for the South no less than for the rest of the country. For the sudden ending of the war and the need for reconversion have given the American people a magnificent opportunity to rebuild their country in terms of its needs as a nation and not merely in terms of sectional vested interests. And there is every indication that we are tossing that opportunity away for the sake of quick profits.

Day after day we have had a procession of witnesses approving full employment. Yet one of the greatest guarantees we could have for fulfilling that hope would be to build up those parts of our country that have been undeveloped, that have been starved of economic opportunity. With adequate planning we could do it. Think what a market for manufactured goods a prosperous, flourishing South would represent.

There would be no room for Bilbos and Rankins in such a South.

Today's reconversion problems and the way we solve them represent the one great chance that decent Americans, both North and South, have to fight the racial intolerance they have been spewing out for the past weeks. It isn't enough simply to call back names whenever a Bilbo writes one of his "kike" or "dago" letters. Nor is moral indignation enough. The answer lies in the economic fundamentals that make a Bilbo or a Rankin or an Eastland possible.

Bilbo's State of Mississippi is still a sick state, though not as sick as it was 10 years ago. It is a sick state in the same

sense that most of the rest of the South is made up of sick states—and we in the North have our share of responsibility for it no less than the people of Mississippi or any other Southern state. For the fight in these Southern states is not fundamentally a fight for American democracy, not only political democracy but economic democracy. We in the North have been willing to shout our heads off at the lack of political democracy in the South; we have not been so willing to see that economic democracy prevailed there. Only within recent months has equalization of freight rates—that gross discrimination against Southern manufacturers—become a reality.

Let's take Mississippi.

Politically, it has long been one of those at the bottom of the heap in the Nation.

By the last census, 72.2 per cent of its farmers are tenant farmers. Its illiteracy rate is 13.1, fairly low among whites, but 23.2 per cent among its Negroes. You can understand this Negro illiteracy when you look at its expenditures for schools: \$30.60 a year for whites, \$5.79 for Negroes, even though the percentage of state income used for education is among the highest in the Nation.

Its lynching rate is one of the highest in the country: 14.18 per cent, with a total of 531 Negroes and 41 whites lynched since lynching records have been kept, the highest number of lynchings in any state in the country. In the last 10 years the rate has dropped sharply.

It has one of the blackest records of rejections in the draft.

It has one of the worst poll-tax records in the country. For not only does the poll tax prevail—\$2 a year for two years—but its registration system is such that any Negro, or white for that matter, can be barred from registration by trick questions even if he came with a wheelbarrow full of money.

The result is that there are 1,000,000 persons, white and Negro—almost half the population in the State of Mississippi—who are disenfranchised. A Rankin, for instance, represents one-tenth of the persons of voting age in his district. A Bilbo and an Eastland represent barely 15 per cent of the state.

But the poll tax is an old story.

What is not talked about as frequently is that this disenfranchisement grows out of a feudal economic system far more than it grows out of fear of the Negro as such. For the Mississippi poll tax, as did most of the Southern poll taxes, grew out of fear of democracy by the South's feudal-minded, economic royalists and their Northern banker friends.

Mississippi's poll tax doesn't go back to the Civil War. It goes back to the Con-

stitution of 1890, when Bryan Populism was beginning to sweep the South, when poor whites and poor Negroes were just beginning to get together at the polls and to make their weight felt against the entrenched interests. It was the poll tax that stopped them. And the great crime of the poll tax is that it is not only against the people of Mississippi, but against the people of the whole U. S. A. as well.

The decent people of the South have been struggling against this denial of democracy with increasing success in recent years. You have only to look at the editorials in enlightened Southern newspapers to know that this is true. And Negro-baiting in public, at least, has not been quite so fashionable as it once was.

Why, then, the sudden eruption of Negro-baiting and foreign-baiting by the Bilbos and Rankins in recent months?

The answer lies in the elections of 1946.

For every time a Rankin or a Bilbo spews out his race hatred, he is talking not to the people of the U. S. A., but to the 15 or less per cent of Mississippians who hold his electoral fate in their hands.

The Rankins and the Bilbos are beginning to grow worried. They are worried because the Democratic Party itself in Mississippi is beginning to find them an embarrassment.

And they are worried because economic changes are taking place in Mississippi which mean that some day there will be no place for the type of politician they represent.

Mississippi's economy has been changing. The state is now one of the great oil-producing centers of the country. Diversified farming is beginning to break down the old cotton impoverishment of the soil. Despite Northern opposition, Mississippi is becoming industrialized. Mississippi is fast losing its place at the bottom of the wealth-producing states of the Nation.

All this means the beginning of an awakening—an awakening that will steadily increase the pressure for democracy—white and black.

Against that trend, people like Rankin and Bilbo must turn to the demagogic tricks of the past, must turn on all the spigots of race hatred and foreigner hatred. With what shouts and hosannas Bilbo will turn to his 15 per cent of

Mississippians next year and shout to high heaven how he laid low the Communists and "nigger lovers" of the North. How he will scream that he is resisting "pressure" from the North. And Rankin will strive to outdo him.

So what?

There are two constructive jobs to be done. One by the decent people of Mississippi. The other by the rest of the Nation.

Mississippians can do the greater part of this democratic job by fighting steadily and progressively for the establishment of true democracy in their state.

They can push for repeal of the poll tax, whether state or Federal repeal.

They can push for wider and better standards of education and health particularly for the Negro whose school facilities are tragically far behind those for the whites.

They can push for the industrialization of their state and the modernization of its agriculture.

They can push any and every program that means a higher standard of living both for whites and Negroes, and an FEPC.

As for the rest of the Nation, its job is to encourage every liberal element in Mississippi.

To push for the abolition of every economic discrimination against the South.

To push for Federal education and health aid.

To push Federal agricultural modernization programs.

In brief, to stop making the South a stepchild.

It is the Bilbos and Rankins who are helping to block the progress of the South, who are keeping the South back instead of helping it to climb out of a dead past. The very 15 per cent who vote for them and their kind are helping to hold back themselves, their own families and their state.

The Bilbos and Rankins can be beaten; not by contempt alone, but by cutting the ground from under their feet. This reconversion period is the chance to do it.

—ALEXANDER H. UHL



# Colored Youth to Be Given Jewish Center in Bronx

AFRO-AMERICAN 3-17-45

BRONX, N.Y. — Organized by the National Council of Jewish Women to serve underprivileged Jewish children of East Bronx, Council House will be turned over to an interracial committee for the use of colored children on March 27.

Because the neighborhood is now composed almost entirely of colored residents, the group, according to Mrs. Clarence M. Lewis, executive director, decided to broaden the center's sponsorship and change its name to Forest House.

Not only has the council agreed to turn over the land, building and equipment which is valued at a quarter of a million dollars to the new board but it has also promised financial aid for two years.

One of the main divisions of the center which has always been open to persons of all races, creeds and colors, is a nursery which occupies eight rooms on the top floor of the building and which now cares for over fifty children of working mothers.

In addition, there are a music room, gymnasium, dance studio, library, etc., for children through the adolescent period. An extensive program for adults is being developed.

The presentation of the house will be made to Dr. Channing Tobias, senior YMCA secretary, at a public dinner March 27 at Hotel Commodore in New York City, at which time Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt will be the main speaker.

## Vermont Again Invites Children

Again this year a group of Harlem children will spend two weeks vacation at the homes of white farmers in Vermont, under the supervision of the Rev. Ritchie A. Low, pastor of the United Church at Johnson, Vt.

The children will come from the Abyssinian Baptist and St. Philip's P. E. Churches, and will be accompanied by chaperones from these congregations. Last year's experiment when, for the first time, 75 children spent the summer in various Vermont homes, was so successful, Mr. Low stated, that 125 have been invited this year. The children will perform farm tasks during their stay.

The Rev. Mr. Low has been so impressed with the success of the plan for increasing friendliness between white and Negro groups and for breaking down prejudices, that he has begun to interest groups in New Hampshire and Connecticut in sponsoring similar projects.

## Adoption Laws Upset by Tan Yank-British Babies

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — Babies whose fathers are colored soldiers, born to unmarried English women, are causing an adoption problem in Britain, according to correspondence and news reports reaching here.

As a result, the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee is asking the Minister of Health to amend the Children's Adoption Act of 1939 to provide for stricter inquiries into the paternity of a child before plans are made for adoption.

Concern is being aroused by the report of "a medical authority" who says of children with colored fathers: "though resembling a normal white child at birth, it is almost certain that the skin will darken and that other Negroid characteristics will develop."

In the past, when an illegitimate child has been put out for adoption, information regarding paternity has not been given.

Colored Baby Not Wanted  
According to a report in the Reynolds News, in a recent case,

a home has been found at Barnsley for a baby whose father was "a colored man." The baby had been taken by a Huddersfield Couple who decided, however, not to adopt it when they found it "had a Negroid strain."

Meantime, however, an offer to adopt the child was received by Reynolds News from a colored woman in Chatham.

"Two other half-caste babies," the News says, "are now awaiting adoption in Huddersfield where the maternity and child welfare committee is trying to eliminate any recurrence of the problem by instituting a system of blood tests."

## Faith Home Given \$25,000 Memorial by Humble Banker

A gift of \$25,000 to Faith home was announced Saturday by Be. Taub, president of the agency.

The money was given by Ma. Krost, president of the Humble state bank at Humble, as a memorial to his son, Martin M. Krost who died February 21. The gift will be used for the expansion of the proposed new plant of the negro child center.

"Mr. Krost made his generous gift to be used at the discretion of the Faith home board for its most pressing need," Mr. Taub said. "We consider this need to be the

TRENTON, N. J.

TIMES

Cir. D. 51,917

## Board Approves Child Care Work

Activities Have Been A Success, School Officials Advised

Trenton's child care centres are a success and their continued operation has been approved by the Board of Education.

The Federal Government has offered the board a reimbursement amount up to \$44,006. It has been accepted following a report by School Superintendent Paul Loser.

Centres at the Jefferson and Franklin Schools have been in operation and from 50 to 60 children are sent there daily by their war-working mothers.

Another centre has been established at Prospect Village, a housing for migrant Negro war workers. It was to have been started last November 1, Dr. Loser said, but because of construction delays it did not open until June 29.

Early daily enrolments totaled 20, he told the board. The centre has a maximum capacity of 40 and there is every indication this centre, too, will be a success.

Under the Federal Government arrangement, the city spends its own funds for the centres and then is reimbursed by the Government.

## Harlem Kids Guests Of Vermont Farmers

The Vermont Farm Bureau has announced that it will again play host to Harlem children and is inviting boys and girls, aged nine to 12 years, from the Abyssinian Baptist

Church to spend their vacations on farms in northern Vermont. The purpose of the plan, according to the Farm Bureau, "is to increase friendly relations between the two major races, to build up goodwill, and get Negro and white people acquainted."

Last year 125 children journeyed to Vermont and spent two weeks living with farm families. The farm children and the Harlem youngsters had so much fun together that the Farm Bureau decided to repeat the vacation plan again this year.

### FARM LEADER ENTHUSIASTIC

The president of the Vermont Farm Bureau, Arthur Packard, has been one of the most enthusiastic backers of the plan. Last year he and his wife entertained a little girl from New York, and their small daughter introduced the city visitor to farm life.

Credit for the Harlem-to-Vermont plan is given to A. Ritchie Low of Johnston, Vt., who was frequently

preached at the Abyssinian Baptist Church and is a warm friend of Congressman A. Clayton Powell, Jr. The Vermont Farm Bureau says that the farmers refer to the program as "the Ritchie Low plan."

work with negro children. The board therefore decided to use this money for the further expansion of the negro child center to be built soon. A memorial building to Mr. Krost's son will be erected, thereby enabling the center to care for a larger number of needy negro children.

"Our board was greatly moved by Mr. Krost's thoughtful generosity, and felt that his gift was a fitting memorial to his son who was keenly interested in child welfare," Mr. Taub said. "The gift came at an opportune time when the board was disturbed about funds for the completion of the building program."

Building plans for a modern, cottage-type institution were announced recently. The new negro child center will be the first institution for negro children in Texas. The institution will be used to supplement the foster home program, on a similar basis to the operation of Faith home. It will occupy a nine and one-half acre plot at Solo and Oats streets.

Mrs. H. A. Wilson is chairman of the bi-racial advisory committee of the negro child center.



# Camp Jimcro Bars Kids

*People's Voice*

7-7-43

Despite denials by Commissioner of Welfare Leonard V. Harrison, staff members of the Dept. of Welfare are still being forced to observe jimcro lines in selecting children from underprivileged families to go to summer camps. Social workers who assign children to camps are now being told in many instances by Dept. of Welfare supervisors that "white Protestant" children only are being accepted.

The proof that this state of affairs exists is contained in a memorandum from Commissioner Leonard to staff members dated June 15th, which reads in part:

"Several of these agencies (offering camp facilities) limit their intake to children of certain races, religions, and nationalities. The Department disapproves of such intake policies. . . . Nevertheless, I am asking staff to refer our children to all camp openings. . . ."

7-7-43

Welfare workers point out that this is the first year such a policy has been pursued and laid down as a directive, for in previous years the Welfare Dept. sent children only to camps which did not discriminate against any group. The new practice works a particular hardship on children in the Harlem area, and social workers state that there has been a drop in the number of Negro children sent to camps.

7-7-43

Community groups and union members in Harlem are planning a delegation to the Welfare Commissioner at an early date on this issue.

**HARTFORD, CONN.  
COURANT**

Circ. D. 47,872 - S. 80,138

JUL 15 1943

## FOSTER HOMES NEEDED

Like the rest of the country, Hartford is badly in need of more foster homes. The reason is not so much that the war has increased the number of children lacking homes as that the number of persons willing and able to serve as foster parents has shrunk. Housewives have gone into war work, families have doubled up, war workers rather than foster children have been taken in to board, or former foster mothers are looking after their own grandchildren while their daughters trek about the country after soldier-husbands, or work while the men are overseas.

Foster homes are temporary homes. The

children are not available for adoption, because it is usually some temporary disruption that leaves them homeless. The parents or grandparents of many of them hope to take them back some day. Meanwhile they need, not a boarding house, but a home in which foster parents can give them the loving care that is the right of every youngster. The children have become separated from their own parents because of death, illness or desertion. They come in all ages and sizes. As the Child Care Committee of the Council of Social Agencies says, "Some are bright, some not so bright, some are good, others have never

had a chance to be good; some are healthy, others are not so healthy and need careful attention."

Finding homes for them is not easy, because not every household willing to open its doors to them is the right one. One set of foster parents might seek a Protestant girl under six when none was available though all sorts of other categories from Protestant teen-age boys to five-year-old girls of a different faith or race had to stay in institutions because no home was open to them. At the moment there are almost enough Protestant foster parents to meet the need; but Catholic homes, especially for boys, are short, and the need for foster homes for Negro children is critical.

There must be many potential foster parents in Hartford who would gladly open their homes if they knew the urgency. Taking in foster children need be no financial burden, since responsibility for expense money, clothing and medical care is shouldered by the five participating agencies that support the Child Care Committee and even a homeless child has a ration book of its own. Those who can and will offer children sympathetic interest and care should come forward now. W. Wendell Clepper is chairman of the Committee, and full particulars may be had by getting in touch with Foster Homes for Children, 15 Lewis Street, Hartford. The telephone is 7-8118. Why not call them tomorrow?



# 18 Clinics Operated For Crippled Children In North Carolina

*The Journal and Guide*  
*Norfolk, Virginia*  
RALPH, N. C.—Any child in North Carolina, regardless of race or economic status, can have a free examination at one of the 18 clinics operated by the Crippled Children's Service of the division of preventive medicine of the State Board of Health in conjunction with the vocational rehabilitation department of the State Department of Public Instruction, declares Dr. G. M. Cooper, assistant state health officer. *October 27, 1945*  
**MUST BE UNDER 21**

The rehabilitation agency, Dr. Cooper asserts, assists any employable person over 16 regardless of age, but the law restricts services to crippled children to those under 21 years of age.

Dr. Cooper pointed out that many of the cases are discovered by public health nurses who go all over the counties in their regular work of providing post-natal care to maternity cases and infant care to children and pre-natal care to expectant mothers. Because of the scope of their activities they discovered most of their cases early. In many other instances, cases are located by the county welfare departments when they are asked for service of some type. These are cases that have not sought public health facilities and they are sent to the clinics as soon as they are discovered. Thus, the joint efforts of health and welfare units in the county are necessary to bring the service to all the citizens needing it. *10-27-45*

Continuing, he said, "cooperation is also necessary in providing transportation of children to the clinics which are now located so that any child is within 50 miles of the free examination service by thoroughly trained orthopedic specialists. In the seven counties in which there is no public health department, the program is entirely dependent upon the county department of public welfare to get the children to the clinics.

## PUBLIC WELFARE AGENCY

"Upon the public welfare agency falls the responsibility of determining financial need in those cases in which a family is unable to pay for treatment or to meet the purchase price of artificial limbs. Cooperation between the health and welfare departments is necessary to make certain that those able to pay for treatment do so and that the county itself pays its part in those cases involving county re-

sponsibility for care. Often it is the welfare agency that provides for hospitalization or artificial appliances when the patient's family is unable to meet the cost. "Working together the county public health department and the county department of public welfare seek to expand the program to the point where every child in need of treatment will receive proper care. Then new cases can be handled promptly and in time to bring about recovery to the fullest possible extent.

"This program of physical rehabilitation of children will show its full value in years to come through the income the former patients earn in support of themselves and their work makes to the commerce and industry of the State.



# \$25,000 Boys' Club

Atlanta World 2-23-45

## Building Promised

Along about the last part of this year Atlantans may again poke out their chests proudly. They will be the possessors of a new \$25,000 building in which will be housed the Atlanta Negro Boys' Club.

"When the directors of the Atlanta Boys' Club voted unanimously last Wednesday to invite individuals in this community who may wish to share in the raising of \$25,000 to erect the George Washington Carver Boys' Club building for Negro boys, they gave a lift to the morale of Atlanta and the entire south," said Dr. Louie D. Newton, prominent pastor of the Druid Hills Baptist church here. 2-23-45

Dr. Newton, long-time interest in Negro problems in Atlanta, further had this to say in a story released to the World relatives to the proposed boys' club:

"The architect's drawing of this modern structure, 100 to 80, with two-stories, will occupy a strategic location on the corner of Davis and Thurmond streets, in the center of 2,000 boys between the ages of eight and 18 years and will provide the only gymnasium for the boys of our neighbor race on the westside. Through the gracious courtesy of the AB and C Railway, an entire vacant city block has been leased to the Atlanta Boys' Club for outdoor recreational facilities in connection with the new location of the Negro Boys' Club. Since 1941, the Negro Boys' Club has been operated as a part of the program of the white Boys' Club in the very inadequate quarters at 277 Auburn avenue, but with most encouraging results. The new building and the new location will greatly multiply the service of the Atlanta Boys' Club to the Negro youth of Atlanta."

### NO GENERAL CAMPAIGN

"Someone is certain to ask, 'How can you erect such a building with \$25,000,' and the answer is that it couldn't be done except for the cooperation of numerous vinced that youth served today citizens who are fully con-yields better citizens tomorrow. There will be no general campaign for these funds. It is the belief of the directors of the Atlanta Boys' Club that there are many individuals in Atlanta who will gladly respond to this invitation, and will

immediately mail their checks to W. W. Woolfork, executive director Atlanta Boys' Club, 402 Pryor St., SW, Atlanta, Ga." 2-23-45

"I have worked with the Negro Boys' Club for 10 years, and I know what has been accomplished with the very limited facilities and funds available for this vitally important service to the Negro youth of our community. And I wish, in passing, to pay tribute to the sacrificial efforts of S. J. Thompson in keeping alive this great work."

"When Mr. Woolfork made his report of the work of the Atlanta Boys' Club for 1944 at the meeting Wednesday, I caught the following figures:

"During 1944, 67,007 boys were served in white and Negro units. There were 46,364 hours of direct-ed games in the two clubs, 12,987 boys engaged in swimming, 35,668 boys had shower baths with towels and soap provided, 15,545 boys engaged in gym classes, 5,524 used the libraries, and 31,200 bottles of milk were consumed by these boys during their work and play in the clubs." 2-23-45

"If you wish to know what the white and Negro boys' clubs are doing for the youth of Atlanta, ask Police Chief M. A. Hornsby or Judge Garland Watkins of the Juvenile Court. They are both members of the board of directors, and they heartily endorse this movement to provide the new building and playground for Negro boys' Club. They tell us that the way to solve the problem of juvenile delinquency is providing just such training as the Atlanta Boys' Club is offering the boys of both races."

"There is a verse in the Bible which goes like this: 'Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.' The George Washington Carver building for Negro boys is our immediate response to that basic truth."



## RELIGION

principles there is no line of race to them. All men are brothers. Flanner House offers a valuable opportunity for Friends to demonstrate the thing they claim to

\* Named for Frank W. Flanner, Indianapolis undertaker.

## Brotherhood of Man

For 46 years Indianapolis has been experimenting with the Brotherhood of Man. It works. The experiment's site is Flanner House,\* a center in which white men and black have worked together, have followed the commandment "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Indianapolis believe that Flanner House helped their city escape wartime racial troubles: all the explosive elements were present, but the fuse was lacking.

This week on Founder's Day Flanner House will dedicate a new health center. It will also record what it has done to meet the 20th-Century problems of housing, health, jobs, poverty, education, de-



12-10-45  
CLEO BLACKBURN

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor."

pendency. The center operates a cannery, a co-op store, a job-placement service. It trains for jobs and home-making. Says soft-spoken, polished Cleo Blackburn, Flanner House director and former Tuskegee teacher, "When we work at these problems, race relations take care of themselves." *Chicago, Ill.*

Formalized religion is not part of Flanner House, but religious groups share its work. Before the city's Community Fund took over financing, the Disciples of Christ contributed time and money. The United Christian Missionary Society helped. The American Friends gave \$8,000 this year, hope in 1946 to give \$26,000. Said one of them: "If Friends live up to their



# WEALTHY OIL MAN MAKES BIG DONATION TO BE SPENT FOR NEGRO WELFARE, ADVANCEMENT

1-26-45-  
Tulsa. — Announcement was made here recently at a luncheon by Waite Phillips, wealthy oil magnate and philanthropist that a \$100,000 fund had been created to be known as the Carver Memorial Fund to be expended within the next five years for the improvement and general welfare of Negroes in the state of Oklahoma. Phillips announcement was made to a group of Tulsa business men he selected as co-trustees of the fund which the donor left open for contributions from others who might wish to join the movement.

In the letter transmitting the fund and naming the trustees Phillips said:

"It must be used by you exclusively in furtherance of the general welfare of those members of the Negro race who live in Oklahoma. No portion of it shall inure to the benefit of any private individual. No portion of it shall be used to carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation. No portion of it shall revert to me or any member of my family."

1-26-45-  
"Each co-trustee and successor co-trustee shall serve without compensation. Allocations for beneficial use, as herein defined, may be made by a majority vote of the trustees at any time but not to the extent of a total depletion of the fund before December 31, 1946. The fund in its entirety, however, shall be liquidated, for such beneficial uses, on or before December 31, 1949."

1-26-45-  
"In addition to the conditions and restrictions imposed above by the rules of law and reason, I take this opportunity of injecting some thoughts into this letter, for record purposes, about which we all seemed to have reached an agreement during the time of our luncheon conference last Tuesday and again today noon when we met to exchange ideas on the subject. It would appear that our Negro population have facilities and institutions of strictly religious nature and governmental schools comparable to those enjoyed by the white population in this locality. Institutions and agencies for other purposes, however, which serve to

promote self-reliant growth, better physical and moral development, and higher ideals of social responsibility—especially during the formative years of boys and girls—appear to be inadequate for the exclusive use of this important group of our citizens.

1-26-45-  
"We hear much discussion, nowadays, about race equality. The best answer to this, it seems to me, comes from the pen of a very wise and substantial Negro businessman of North Carolina. He says 'If the colored man, the same as his white brother, feels the urge to view life from the mountain top he must be patient and learn to use his own effort and some time in getting there.' The general overall policy therefore to govern the disbursement of this fund—and I hope it will increase from other sources—is that of helping and inspiring our colored population who require encouragement and guidance toward that goal. Another thought is this—with the idea that self pride, when properly directed, is morally beneficial you should seek ways to establish or help specific and exclusive welfare projects, or a project, which will be staffed and operated by members of the Negro race and ultimately controlled by them."

1-26-45-  
Co-trustees as announced by Phillips who attended the luncheon are Johnson D. Hill, Ralph Talbot, H. B. Dowell, Harvey A. Heller, W. G. Skelly, Harry Clark and W. K. Warren.

The Carver Memorial Fund is the third action taken recently designed to improve conditions among Tulsa Negroes. First was the announcement of the Variety Club of Oklahoma's gift of a health center to the Negro area for which ground was broken Friday, and the second was the recently completed drive for funds to renovate Moton Memorial hospital, thus assuring Negro residents of Tulsa facilities equal to those available in the white community.

DES MOINES, IOWA  
REGISTER

Cir. D. 169,725 — S. 361,433

JUN 6 1945

## Negroes Get \$100,000 New Building Gift

A gift of \$100,000 to build and equip a new Des Moines Negro community center building was announced Tuesday by A. A. Alexander, president of the Negro center board.

The Gardner Cowles Foundation made the gift following a report of a special committee of the Negro community center, concurred in by the Community Chest board, that more adequate facilities are badly needed to serve the 6,500 Negroes of Des Moines.

### Suggests Willkie Name.

The Foundation, in making the gift, suggested that the new building be named in honor of Wendell Willkie "who did so much in his public career to create better understanding toward the Negroes and more tolerance among all the races, one toward another."

Construction of the new building will start as soon as building restrictions are lifted. The building will include a combination gymnasium-auditorium.

Its location has not been determined but it probably will be located near the present Negro community center house at 907 Fifteenth st.

Mr. Alexander said the Negroes of Des Moines will contribute \$10,000 toward the cost of the building to supplement the Foundation gift.

### Aid to Projects.

The Gardner Cowles Foundation was established 10 years ago by Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Cowles, sr., to aid Iowa colleges, hospitals, and other non-profit community projects.

Its major gifts have been the Des Moines Junior League

Convalescent Home building, the Cowles library at Drake university, a dormitory building at Grinnell college, the Harvey Ingham science building at Drake (yet to be built), and a science building at Simpson college (yet to be built).

Gardner Cowles is publisher of The Register and Tribune. He has retired from active business because of ill health.

## What Negroes Are Doing

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

One of the most needful things for our community at this time is a social center for Negro boys and girls, and more social service workers among Negro people—not policemen necessarily, but men and women who have been trained and developed in human affairs and have knowledge of and interest in the social needs of people.

Our church and fraternal order buildings would do well to spare space and initiate such a program, and see it through.

Birmingham is a great and growing city—great in resources and property. It is the duty of us all to see to it that the youth among us are provided for, and that those regarded as waywards are supervised and directed to a higher plane of life.

9-16-45  
Our ministers and teachers and many other social workers have done and are doing a creditable work, but their efforts should be augmented and their services strengthened through the increased activity of other agencies. Very recently the writer was impressed with what was done in one of our communities where a large number of Negroes live. The story is told by Rev. Clayton Powell, Sr., pastor emeritus of the Abyssinian Baptist Church of New York City, whom the writer has known well for a number of years.

## Some Spent Wisely

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

How often during these boom years have the Negroes been criticized for buying clothes they had never been able to afford before, for spending their new wealth for foolish luxuries. The same indictment could be made of all classes and colors of our American people. It was a very human thing to do. Even now some of our friends are eager to spend some of their profits for a shiny new car when in some cases the old one is in very good shape.

Granted that some of their earnings did go in thoughtless ways, I was pleased as I traveled in rural sections of North Carolina this summer, to see that some of our Negroes had used some of their money to improve their living conditions.

Modest cottages, painted, clean, sometimes screened and with clean curtains at the windows, had in many instances taken the place of shacks and shanties which had appeared unfit for human habitation.

I have heard it remarked by people in the South that many times the Government housing projects for Negroes are kept with more pride than those of the whites. We must give these people the opportunities for helping themselves as they have proved they can.

M. B. ALLEN.

Louisville.



SEP 25 1945

**St. Benedict's Center**

Opening of the new Catholic community center in the North End, that of St. Benedict the Moor, is a matter of importance to Negro Catholics, of whom there are quite a number in the area, and also to the community as a whole.

From the example set by the Catholic Church in establishing this religious and social center, equipped with every necessary facility for the work it is to carry on, may come eventually a non-sectarian center equally well equipped. There has been a crying need for such a center. It has been advocated in these columns repeatedly, but for various reasons it has not yet come about.

Under the direction of Father Laughlin, the St. Benedict Center should become a power for good in the North End. It is not designed exclusively for Negroes, although of necessity the majority of those who will make use of its facilities will be Negroes. It has the whole-hearted support of the entire Catholic community, which has responded generously to provide funds to meet the needs that arose as the center took form. It will be interesting to watch the progress of this enterprise, in which religious and social service are to be so combined as to seem inseparable.



80b-1945

# LINCOLN CENTER TO MARK 40TH SERVICE YEAR

## Dinner Guests Will Review Work.

BY RAY ELLIS.

Abraham Lincoln center, 700 Oakwood blvd., which is committed to service regardless of race or creed, will celebrate its 40th anniversary with a dinner tomorrow. The six-story building, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and later modified by Dwight Perkins, has been the center's home since its founding. Upwards of 120,000 children and adults annually participate in its activities.

A review of the center's history will be presented for the staff, contributors, and directors. Mrs. Helen Rosenfelds, treasurer, will discuss its early history; Mrs. Julia Abrahamson, trustee, will tell of more recent years, and Dr. Curtis W. Reese, dean, will present a summary. Other speakers will include the Rev. Leslie Pennington of the First Unitarian church, Miss Marguerite Sylla of the University of Chicago settlement, and the Rev. Archibald Carey of Woodlawn A. M. E. church.

Will Display Heftloom.

A candleholder belonging to Abraham Lincoln will be exhibited. It was presented to the center in 1909 by the Rev. Frank W. Gunsaulus, who received it from Dennis Hanks with the assurance that "the first piece that was ever writ by Abe to speak was writ by the light of a candle in this candlestick."

Founded by the late Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, uncle of Frank Lloyd Wright and pastor of the All Souls Unitarian church which was located across the street from the center, the center's original program ran the gamut of service activities with athletics, handicrafts, and dramatics.

Thru the years the program has been modified gradually to avoid overlapping work of similar agencies and to promote the best use of the building. Today emphasis is placed on cultural arts, adult education, child guidance, social service, and similar activities.

Child Care Offered.

For mothers engaged in war work a nursery school for children 2 and

5 and an out-of-school unit for children 6 to 12 is maintained from 7:30 a. m. to 6 p. m. Most other activities begin at 3:40 p. m. after school.

Group classes in instrumental and vocal music head the list, with private lessons at a small charge available.

Other arts classes include ballet, tap, and modern dancing, music appreciation, art, dramatics, and a rhythm band. The latest music appreciation class, whose members last fall knew little about music, now has a representation of 20 to 30 at each Saturday night pop concert of the Chicago symphony. From November thru March Sunday afternoon concerts are held once a month at the center.

Many Classes Offered.

Adult education includes beginning and advanced classes in music and art, the Henry George school, a parents' club, Spanish study group, a mother's club, and dancing, dramatic, and discussion groups.

A child guidance clinic with psychiatrist and social worker assists parents and children. Social service and planned parenthood conferences are also available. Every Friday night during fall and winter months a forum is held.

The center maintains a summer camp at Milton Junction, Wis., for boys and girls 6 to 14. The public library has a branch on the first floor of the building where a children's story hour is held every Saturday at 11 a. m. Other activities include two teen age clubs for boys and girls and a puppet club.

Give Monthly Concerts.

Concerts, lectures, recitals, plays, and exhibits are presented periodically at the center.

Dr. Jones was head resident of the center from its founding until his death in 1918. At that time the church and center were separated. In 1923 Dr. Reese, dean, came to the center.

The center has a staff of 43 persons, colored, white, Jew, and gentile. Mrs. Edna Hansen is in charge of the social service section, which includes the camp, John Green heads the cultural arts department, and Morris Topchevsky is director of art.

Judge Holly Heads Board.

Federal Judge Holly is president of the board of trustees, Mrs. Dorothy Cole is vice president, and Mrs. Meda Z. Steele, secretary. Trustees include Dr. Reese, C. W. Balch, Col. M. O. Bousfield, director of health education for the Rosenwald Fund and now commanding officer of station hospital No. 1 at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Marine Capt. Paul Douglas, formerly of the University of Chicago; Louis Wirth, professor of sociology of the University of Chicago; Mrs. S. O. Levinson, Mrs. E. L. Lobdell,

## Improvement-Community

Oswald G. Treadway, Mrs. James Luther Adams, and Mrs. Marian Fogelson.

FD Signs Bill for \$10,000,000 to V.I.

WASHINGTON

President Roosevelt signed the bill last Thursday authorizing a \$10,000,000 public works program in the Virgin Islands to provide consum clearance, fire protection, water supply, highways, sanitation and medical facilities.

Charles Harwood, island governor, said in a statement here that the cost of the project would "practically be paid for" out of part of the record internal revenue taxes paid into the Treasury on rum and other alcoholic beverages made in the islands and shipped to the mainland.

Plenty Revenue on Hand

This revenue, he added, totaled nearly three times the cost of the public works program which will be carried out under the direction of the Federal Works Administrator.

The project, initiated three years ago by Governor Harwood, is to be started as soon as manpower and materials are available. With defense projects on the islands now completed, Governor Harwood said the islanders already had begun to experience a serious reaction from the wartime construction boom.

The law provides that \$2,028,000 shall be available during the remainder of the current fiscal year, and \$2,000,000 a year for the next four years.

Ground Broken For Negro Club

Ground-breaking ceremonies for the new George Washington Carver Club for Negro Boys were held yesterday morning at the corner of Thurmond and Davis streets, S. W. When completed the club will have a modern gymnasium, club rooms, swimming pool, and a full-sized athletic field.

Ellis Barrett, chairman of the parks department of Fulton county, has arranged to have the athletic field graded and developed and the city of Atlanta has cooperated in providing ground for the building of the club.

The club will operate as a branch of the Atlanta Boys' Club, with a committee of Negroes to act in an advisory capacity. Carver lyle Fraser is in charge of raising the money for the erection of the club. Under a finance committee arrangement, white citizens will

donate two-thirds of the necessary funds and Negroes the remaining third. To date about one-half the necessary funds have been raised.

\$30,000 Raised for S.C. Hospital

COLUMBIA, S. C. (ANP)—In an eight-week campaign for the new Good Samaritan Waverly Hospital, colored citizens here raised \$30,000, which white trustees, with the Junior League of Columbia, have promised to match this week.

A gift of \$3,000 by Mrs. J. J. Statke, widow of the president of Benedict College, topped the personal contributions. The new hospital will be operated by an all-colored staff.

In their effort to make the hospital one of the best and most thoroughly equipped in the country, colored citizens will launch another campaign.

NEW YOUTH CENTER OPENED IN HARLEM

N.Y. TIMES

A new youth center for Harlem, modernistic in style and "practical" in purpose, was opened officially yesterday afternoon. Located at Lenox Avenue and 116th Street, the center is a gift to the community from the Pepsi-Cola Company through its president, Walter S. Mack Jr.

Known as the Junior Club of Harlem, it will be run by the teenage members themselves working through a house council that will delegate responsibility for the program and maintenance of the center. An adult club director and a local advisory board of adult neighbors will help out. The main emphasis of the center will be recreational, and to that end ping-pong tables, games, a soft drink bar, a juke box and dance floor have been provided.

This is the third such junior club to be contributed by the company. The others—at Inwood and Astoria—have been functioning since late last year. According to Mr. Mack, they have worked out successfully. "If the experiment succeeds here it elsewhere in other communities. We believe that this is a practical way of meeting the problem of what is called juvenile delinquency."

The clubs function from 4 to 10 P. M. on weekdays and from 7 to 10 P. M. on Saturdays. Children from 15 to 19 years of age may become members and pay 10 cents a month dues. Designed for the activities of adolescents, the center has sturdy chairs and tables, mirrored walls and both neon and fluorescent lighting overhead.

NEW YORK, N. Y.  
HERALD TRIBUNE  
Cir. D. 356,512 — S. 539,023  
JUN 6 - 1945

## Des Moines Negro Center To Be Named for Willkie

\$100,000 for Project Donated by Cowles Foundation

Special to the Herald Tribune

DES MOINES, Iowa, June 5.—A gift of \$100,000 in honor of the late Wendell Willkie to build a new Negro community center building in Des Moines was announced today by the Gardner Cowles Foundation.

The foundation made the gift following a report of a special committee of the Negro community center and concurred in by the community chest board, that more adequate facilities are needed to serve the 6,500 Negroes of Des Moines.

The foundation asked that the new building be named in honor of Wendell Willkie "who did so much in his public career to create better understanding toward Negroes and more tolerance among all races, one toward another."

Gardner Cowles jr., president of the foundation and John Cowles, vice-president, were close friends of Mr. Willkie. John Cowles accompanied Mr. Willkie on his trip to England during the "blitz" in 1940 and Gardner Cowles jr. was a member of his party on his trip around the world in 1942.

The Gardner Cowles Foundation was established ten years ago by Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Cowles sr., to aid Iowa colleges, hospitals and other non-profit-making community projects. Gardner Cowles sr. is publisher of "The Des Moines Register and Tribune."



## The Bethlehem Community Center

The formal dedication of The Bethlehem Community Center last Sunday afternoon, presages a new and vital concern for the problems of community life and organization among Atlanta Negroes and guarantees to them a great reservoir of interracial goodwill cooperation. Born in the hearts of white women of the North Georgia Conference and sponsored by them, the new Atlanta Center, like the others blanketing the Southland and many cities in the North, has the backing and blessings of the great Woman's Society of Christian Service, representative of 3 million Methodists throughout America. 4-5-45

Stating objectives underlying the establishment of these Centers, Miss Mary Lou Barnwell, Secretary, Urban Work of the Women's Division of Christian Service of the Methodist Church with headquarters in New York, said: "Our objective is to meet the needs of the community; to train leaders, to interpret one race and individual to another, and to bring the individual into a vital relationship with God for more abundant living."

As laudable as are these aims, they cannot come to full fruition unless and until the Negro citizens enter joyously and seriously into spirit of the work which is being undertaken. Established in and for the immediate needs of Negro citizens of South Atlanta, the Center's activities and services are by no means confined to that community. "Boys and girls, men and women, in all ages and groups and in all sections of colored Atlanta are heirs to our services here," declared Mrs. Nell Blackshear, Director of the Center. 4-5-45

We congratulate the Board of Directors, the Methodist Women of the North Georgia Conference and the great Methodist Church in their endeavor to bring to colored Atlanta such a worthy and sorely needed agency. We look upon it as a great adventure in Christian race relations and a challenge to the community pride of colored Atlantans.

## Ground Broken For Carver Boys' Club

BY WILLIAM A. FOWLKES

A steady rain Tuesday morning failed to dampen the spirit of a score or more citizens attending the ground-breaking ceremonies for the new George Washington Carver Club for Negro boys at the corner of Davis and Thurmond Streets.

While cameras clicked and smiles broaden the faces of those present, V. P. Warren, white, president of the Atlanta Boys' Club, sank a spade into a portion of the rich earth where already a bulldozer had been busy levelling a large plot designated for an athletic field.

Located in the immediate vicinity of the Davis Street School, the new club, construction of which is to start in the very near future, is designed to satisfy a long-standing community need. When completed, it will be composed of a modern gymnasium, club rooms and swimming pool along with a full size athletic field. Fulton County and the city of Atlanta are both cooperating with the Boys' Club in making this undertaking possible.

### BRANCH OF BOYS' CLUB

The completed club will operate as a branch of the Atlanta Boys' Club along with an advisory committee composed of Negro citizens. It will take the place of the outgrown and inadequate quarters at 277 Auburn Avenue, N. E.

Carlyle Fraser, chairman of the Finance Committee is managing the raising of the \$25,000 to make the dream come true. He expects white citizens to raise two-thirds of the total amount necessary. He said Tuesday that the campaign is getting along nicely

with about one-half of the funds subscribed. It is reported that the Atlanta Kiwanis and Rotary clubs are supporting the project in a big way.

Professor G. N. Cornell, principal of Washington High School, and Dr. C. H. Johnson are acting as temporary chairman and vice-chairman for the Negro Advisory Committee. They are expecting Atlantans of color to rally around the raising of their \$8,000 share in this noble project.

### DOLLAR A YEAR LEASE

Grounds for the playground to the Boys' Club have been leased by Col. B. L. Suggs, president of the A. B. and C. Railroad, for one dollar a year. This gift will make it possible for a modern athletic field and playground to exist in an almost forgotten section of the city where the building is to be constructed, adjoining Davis Street School grounds, was provided by the City of Atlanta, cooperating with the Boys' Club Board of Directors. 3-21-45

Mr. Warren said Tuesday that the building will be started as soon as it can be cleared with the proper authorities. Ellis Barrett, chairman of the Park C. Department of Fulton County, arranged to have the Athletic Field graded and developed.

Before 1941 the Colored Boys' Club struggled along with little backing, having been inaugurated and maintained by S. J. Thompson. In 1941 it became a branch of the Atlanta Boys' Club. Its staff was increased, its program expanded and the membership rose to over 400. Due to inadequate quarters most of the activities had to be carried on outside of the club on vacant lots. 3-21-45

The new Carver Club is designed to reach a larger number of boys than ever before, the improved facilities making it possible for the leaders to do a better job in training and directing the development of the boys. The Club is to serve boys from eight to eighteen years old.

DAYTON, O.

NEWS

Circ. D. 75,877 - S. 78,997

See 744

MAY 29 1945

## Council Offers 37 Suggestions For Negro Aid

A program of activities aimed at improving the social and economic status of Negroes in the Dayton community in the form of 37 recommendations was presented Monday to the Council of Social Agencies by J. Harvey Kerns, assistant director of research of the National Urban League.

The recommendations are based on a study made by Kerns last January and February. A joint committee to be appointed by Samuel H. Thal, president of the Council of Social Agencies, and P. B. Myers, jr., chairman of the survey advisory committee, will study the recommendations before any action is taken. It was pointed out following the presentation of the matter at a meeting in the Engineers Club.

The proposed plan includes committee conferences with employers in business and industrial concerns "in an effort to create broader opportunities of employment for qualified Negroes." It was stated that "more equitable employment of Negroes in the public utilities is highly justified on the basis of the monopoly structures" and that "participation in employment in various branches of city and county governments is the democratic right of citizens who are taxed for their support."

"That the committee enlist the cooperation of Negro ministers, civic, social and fraternal leaders in outlining a broad program of education among Negro workers" is included in the recommendations. A campaign of educating Negroes on the value of labor organizations and that labor unions be urged to develop a more practical program to improve race relations was proposed.

Encouragement in developing business enterprises, improvement in housing conditions of Negroes in Dayton with suggestions as to the opening of low-priced suburban additions for them and "that the various health agencies enlist the cooperation of Negro religious, civic, social and fraternal organizations and labor groups to inform the colored community of health services available to them," are more points stressed.

Emphasized are the educational inadequacies which face the Negro community. Proposed are the

school board's inauguration of "a system of school districting and student transfers which will be applicable to Negroes and whites alike." It was pointed out that "many of the Dunbar graduates have not the necessary minimum requirements to enter class A colleges without conditions," and in order to alleviate the situation the committee would urge the school board "to provide Negroes opportunity for specific vocational training in the light of modern industrial needs."

In a religious line Negro ministers are urged "to make a contribution to the welfare of the Dayton Negroes by appointing a committee to study the need for a wider use of the church facilities for leisure-time activities of adults and youth."

The recommendations include the desire to increase the number of playgrounds in Negro communities and provide them with proper equipment. And the committee was urged to encourage study and discussion of race relations by luncheon clubs, social and civic groups.

The 37 recommendations were divided into the following sections: Administration, employment, business, housing, health, education, religious, social and civic activities, crime and delinquency, recreation, social welfare and race relations.



# Flanner House in Indiana

*The Afro American Baltimore Maryland*

## Leads in Social Movements

9-1-45  
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana — (ANP)—Future social movements in America may be based upon standards set here at Flanner House.

That is the way local citizens of both races feel about the work performed at this city's unique settlement house and Cleo Blackburn, its 34-year-old director, who came here from Fisk and Tuskegee.

### "Best Thing Town Has Done"

Booth Tarkington call Flanner House "a bright and shining achievement." Charles Lynn, an industrialist remarked that it is "an inspired program." And Dr. Thomas Noble, an outstanding surgeon, comments: "It is the best thing this town ever did."

Mr. Blackburn, who has initiated varied work training programs at Flanner House, is sought by local employers on how to solve the labor problem and interracial difficulties.

A small army of colored workers has been trained there on how to handle electric stoves, vacuum cleaners, electric refrigerators and washing machines. Flanner House spent \$44,000 last year on training people to work.

### Interest in Unity Grows

Although the ugly KKK spirit still hovers over this city, local enthusiasm, from both races, on how to formulate programs of interracial goodwill has been manifested since Mr. Blackburn came here.

Four years ago, he became the first colored person to be named by the junior chamber of commerce as the citizen who had done the most good that year.

A cross-section of white and colored citizens aided by 35 volunteer Quakers, helped build the modern Flanner settlement house, which is located on the site of what was once one of the worst slum areas in America.

### Face Major Crises

Its director says he is not interested in what people call "the race problem, but in racial development."

"In the history of the United States, the colored man has two crises," he adds. "The first came when 3,500,000 freed slaves were dumped into a competitive world for which they had no training."

"The second crisis is with us now, when 2,500,000 Southern rural colored people are here in

the North to stay, bringing neither the aptitudes nor the attitudes necessary for city and industrial life.

"In essential readjustments, it is further for the colored man who goes from the fields of Alabama to the factories of Indianapolis than it is for the Italian who goes from industrial Milan to industrial Indianapolis."

### 6,385 Workers Placed in Year

Last year, 6,385 colored workers were placed through Flanner House. Requests for 2,425 were unfilled.

Plans to build a new health center, which will feature child and maternity care, have already been outlined. Dr. Walter H. Mad-dux, who has been lent by the U.S. Children's bureau, will head the center.

Flanner House is backed by the Community Fund, the Indianapolis foundation, the city government, the State government, the children's bureau of the federal government and thousands of plain citizens.

Its staff is made up of 25 colored persons and 9 white associates from the American Friends' Service committee.

"If a development like Flanner House can succeed in Indianapolis," declared Rowland Allen, personnel manager of a large department store here, "it will succeed anywhere."

### Flanner House Head



CLEO BLACKBURN,

who heads Flanner House, a unique

settlement house in Indianapolis, can city"

The 34-year-old director, who came to the city from Fisk and Tuskegee, was the first colored person named by the junior chamber of commerce as the citizen who had the most good in a given year.

AKRON, IND. NEWS  
SEPTEMBER 30, 1945

## In Case You Are Interested . . .

### FLANNER HOUSE FOSTERS RACIAL AMITY

While race clashes have occurred in many northern cities, Indianapolis, with the greatest percentage of negro population of any city north of the Mason-Dixon Line, has had none. "The answer," states an article in The Reader's Digest for September, "lies largely in the wise leadership among both whites and Negroes which finds its expression in Flanner House."

The authors are Roger William Riis and the late Webb Waldron, and their article is condensed from Survey Graphic.

Under its Negro director, Cleo Blackburn, brought from Tuskegee Institute a few years ago, Flanner House has grown, the authors state, from "a small and shabby service center for Negroes" to an enterprise embracing a new health center, workshops and playgrounds and vocational classes of the largest community gardening and canning project in the United States by and for Negroes. Led by Flanner House, a home development for low-income groups is planned for a slum area which the city has been authorized to reclaim. The new community house itself was built largely by white and Negro volunteer labor, working together.

"Flanner House is backed solidly by the Community Fund, the Indianapolis Foundation, the city; state and federal governments and thousands of plain citizens," the article notes. Booth Tarkington has called it "a bright and shining achievement." The Indianapolis Junior Chamber of Commerce, four years ago picked Cleo Blackburn as the man who had done most for his city in that year — "the first time a Negro has been so honored in Indianapolis, perhaps the first time in any Amer-

## MUNCIE, IND. STAR

Cir. D. 22,791 — S. 18,099

SEP 26 1945

## Entre-Nous Club Saves Munsyana Homes Nursery

The Entre-Nous Club, of which Mrs. Roberta Brady is president, stepped in this week to keep a going concern going. This concern, which means a great deal to the Negro community of Muncie, is the Munsyana Homes Nursery, which the nursery were Rena J., Sylvia next Sunday would have been discontinued had the Entre-Nous Club not shouldered the responsibility. Paul Thomas Johnson, Donna Kel-

In the Community Center of the Negro section of Munsyana Homes between twenty and thirty-five small children are given supervised care each day while their mothers and fathers are at work. The fee is small, the care excellent.

### Daily Inspection

When the Lanham Act funds became inoperative recently, the nursery at Wilson Junior High School closed, and many of these children were taken for care by the Psi Iota Xi Day Nursery.

But there was no place for the three, four and five-year-olds of Munsyana to go. At a mass meeting Sunday the Negro people of Muncie voted their co-operation to the Entre-Nous Club and the good work of training children to be fine citizens is going on.

The children come at 6:15 o'clock in the morning. They have already had their breakfasts and are wearing fresh little dresses or suits. They are given a customary health inspection, which is designed not to let any childhood disease slip up on the nursery, as measles did last year.

Then begins a long day of play and learning. There are painting, clay modeling, dolls, toys, picture books, games, puzzles, out-of-door play; morning lunch at 9:30; a walk out of doors under the supervision of Mrs. Bernice Settles and Mrs. Geraldine Findley, who are in charge of the nursery; dramatizations; rest; lunch during which time the children take turns acting as waiters and waitresses and learn to say grace, and learn table manners.

### Pleasant Surroundings

After lunch the school children prepare for school and the others for their nap. Afternoon lunch is served at 3 o'clock; music and rhymes are offered at 3:15 and from 3:45 until 5:30 mothers call for their children.

Even though the war has ended,

there are nine mothers still in factory work; seven in general work, and five in private families.

Between September 1, 1944, and September 1, 1945, a total of 5,726 children have been cared for, according to a notice posted on the bulletin board.

However, the children find their learning very pleasant, as a visit to the nursery makes plain. Four little girls put their dolls to bed for a



# Rival Negro, White Boys' Clubs Form Joint Body

*Daily Worker*  
Members of upper West Side boys' "clubs," whose open street fights have kept the neighborhood in the vicinity of 152 St. and Broadway astir for months, elected a joint committee at a conference in a store-front room at 150 St. and Broadway Tuesday night and instructed it to work out ways and means of eliminating such differences as have led to clashes among rival "clubs."

Nearly half the youngsters, ranging from about 12 to 17 years of age, were the very Negro boys east of Broadway whom the white boys said in an interview with the Daily Worker recently they could not get along with.

The conference was called by the 30th Precinct Coordinating Council, 152nd St. and Amsterdam Ave., supported by this newspaper and the Peoples Voice.

Following election of the committee from the three rival clubs, officers of the Coordinating Council discussed with representatives of the Daily Worker and the Peoples Voice plans for a mass meeting community leaders, including leaders, of the boys' "clubs," for early September.

The purpose of the meeting as outlined to Miss Dorothy A. Castor, secretary of the Coordinating Council, would be to work out a community program embracing activities for the hundreds of Negro and white boys and girls who are now kept antagonistic by housing and other conditions.

Patrolman William Lambert, representing the 30th Precinct Station on the Coordinating Council, reported that a room 50 by 80 feet had been acquired on the second floor above a store between 150th and 151st Sts. as permanent club quarters for the young people. He suggested that it be formally opened on the evening of the proposed mass meeting.

Officers of the Coordinating Council include the 30th Precinct commander, Captain Bernard J. Moore; A. Maurice Moore (Negro), chairman, Dept. of Purchase; Nathan Chusid, first vice chairman (white), private contractor; Charles Matson (Negro), second vice chairman, merchant; Edward S. Hill (Negro),

down there in front of 265—you know, the railing you see in front of these houses round here that have cellars that go down from the sidewalk—and Moses was leaning up against me, like this. Two other fellows and a couple of girls were there, too."

## SAW GANGSTERS COMING

No. 265 W. 122nd is just three doors above 259, Moses Clay's house, in the direction of Eighth Ave. It is on the north side of the street.

"We saw these four guys turn into this street, walking slow, like they were looking for somebody. One of them had his hand in his shirt, like this. They saw us on

play stick ball in the streets. Then, if the boys stand around their own stoops, for want of something to do, "the landlord calls the cop and has them arrested." Morningside Park has a few tennis courts, but they belong to those who get there first.

"Besides, you run into trouble if you go there, because you get into another gang's territory. I think," he said, thoughtfully, "that the fellows should have a place where they can come together and dance, play basketball, volleyball and other things like that. I think there ought to be such a place in every block, with a big back yard all fenced off to play in and where

# 15-Year-Old Negro Boy at Death's Door Because the Community Failed

By EUGENE GORDON

Moses Clay, Jr., 15 years old, lies on the borderline of life and death at the Sydenham Hospital with a hole through his body. A bullet was drilled through him, entering just under his heart and coming out the lower part of his back, by a shot from a U. S. Army .45 pistol in the hand of a 17-year-old boy Sunday night.

The boy who fired the shot, with two other 17-year-olds and one of 14, belonged to a gang known in Harlem as the Turks. Moses did not belong to but played around with members of a kid gang called the Saints. The Turks and the Saints were at war with each other, so when leaders of the Turks came across members or friends of the Saints, there was trouble.

The boy who was telling us the story said he and his friends suspected they were in for trouble as soon as they recognized members of the Turks. The four Turks lined up Moses and the others, the Turks' leader holding an Army .45 pistol cracked. Moses slumped to the sidewalk.

The boy gangsters ran, dragging with them one of their own who, standing behind Moses, was struck by the bullet that went through the boy's body. Moses' friends, supporting him under the arms, walked him to the Sydenham Hospital at Manhattan Ave. and 123 St.

"Where did they get an Army pistol?" I asked the boy. "Oh, you can get 'em easy," he said, adding: "And bullets, too." The four Turks were arrested a little later. The pistol was found by police in one of the boy's homes. Harlem kids break into print.

## WHAT IS CURE?

In the typical Harlem flat where the boy's mother, aunt and uncle live, at 359 W. 122 St., eyewitnesses of the shooting told their story. One boy of 17 said:

"I was sitting on that iron railing

'we'd not bother anybody and nobody'd bother us."

That, in essence, is what most experts say, too. And that, it seems, is something for us all to start working for right now—if we mean what we say when we talk about making our communities fit for our youngsters to live in.

Moses Clay's family and friends agreed that such a program would fit well into the bigger and more general program for doing away with slums and with Jimcrow neighborhoods.



# Kids Run Wild on Upper West Side

## Negroes, Whites Fight; Both Ask Play Areas

By EUGENE GORDON

*Daily Worker*

Members of two kid gangs which occasionally fight it out with each other around 152 St. and Broadway told me yesterday why they fight and what, in their opinion, will put an end to it.

Their two separate remedies added up to about the same thing. 7-9-45

One gang was white and one was Negro. The white boys live west of Broadway and Riverside Drive; the Negro boys live east of Broadway—between Broadway and Amsterdam Ave.

The reason for my interview was that phone calls to the Daily Worker had told excitedly of bloody battles between Negro and white youth, with white hoodlums beating up innocent and unoffending Negro passersby on Broadway and ordering them off the street. The police, according to our informants, did nothing to protect the victims.

One of these phone calls—the really decisive one—told of a white gang's beating a Negro boy to death when they caught him in forbidden territory.

### 30TH PRECINCT STATION

I spoke at length, later with the lieutenant in charge of the 30th precinct police station, 152nd St. and Amsterdam Ave.

Seven or eight Negro boys were clustered around a stoop at 528 W. 152nd St., which is the east side of Broadway. Their ages ranged from 10 to about 14. Showing my press card and introducing myself, I asked about the stories we'd been hearing of Negro and white boys fighting each other. Was it true? If so, why?

It was true, all right, a small boy volunteered. The others agreed. Somebody said the white boys jumped on the Negro boys when the Negro boys went across Broadway. Especially when they went to the playgrounds skirting the Hudson, at the foot of 152nd St., below the Drive.

"Do they jump you without any cause, just like that?"

"Sure!" they chorused, while one added: "Soon's they find one of our

gang over there by himself they jump him and beat him up."

"And the police," I asked. "What do they do?"

"They chase us back over here but they don't bother the white boys."

At the corner of Broadway and 152nd, a few minutes later, I put similar questions to a group of white boys of about the same age.

Sure, it was true, they said. Every time they went east of Broadway the colored boys jumped them. Of course they—the white boys—had to defend themselves, didn't they?

### WHY NOT BE FRIENDS?

"Every boy has a right to defend himself when attacked," I said. "But why these attacks on one another, in the first place? Why can't you two group be friends?"

One of them said they'd like to, but that a leader in the white or the colored group would generally start the attack. The colored boys, another declared, broke the "pacts" the two gangs had made.

"What pacts? Were they signed?"

"It's like this," a boy explained. "One of our guys goes over to one of their guys and our guy says we're not going to fight any more, see, and they shake hands. That's what we call a pact." 7-9-45

I asked what the police did to help them get along together.

"They chase us back, when we go over there, but they don't bother the colored boys."

"I see. Well, what's the remedy for all this fighting? What do you boys suggest?"

"More places to play, right around where we live."

"A clubhouse, where we could play all sorts of games—basketball, volleyball, and have dances. You know, a clubhouse."

I asked whether they had anything of the kind in the neighborhood. No. But down at the corner, at 152nd and Riverside Drive, there was an old four-story building which used to be the Riverside Hospital. It could be fixed up into a swell club. Then they'd have a fine place to go to right in their own street. 7-9-45

### WOULD ADMIT NEGROES

"Would you mind if the colored boys joined in with you?"

No, they wouldn't mind, they said, after a moment's hesitation.

Pete, our photographer, and I examined the old building from the outside and I think the boys have something. I promised to recommend their suggestion to the City of New York. I hereby do so. I recommend their suggestion also to any and all adult civic organizations in that neighborhood, black and white—or interracial. If that old white-front building, now boarded up, were acquired for use of all the young people of that area, much of the trouble would vanish.

Returning to the east side of Broadway, I told the Negro boys what the white boys had said. They were interested, though doubting that a "mixed" club—especially if "mixed" with the elements they had been fighting—would work. They agreed, finally, however, that it might, if they tried hard enough to make it work. Sure, they'd try.

The lieutenant at the desk in the 30th precinct police station was interested. The boys had asked the police about the old building. It was owned by the East River Savings Bank. Would be fine in bringing the colored and the white lads together. It was a community rather than a police problem, however, though the 30th precinct, I learned, is doing splendid work there.

The boy who had been beaten to death? Actually, he had run in front of a funeral car—rumors said while trying to escape from the white gang—and had been killed. And that was that. I found, on the other hand, evidence of hateful undercover intrigue by some clever adult or adults. It seems to be organized and I hereby commend it to the attention of the police department and to people's organiza-



The children shown in the immediate foreground above are too young for the gangs with which this story deals. The little white girl (second from right) and the little Negro girl (teetering on the curbstone) were tossing and bouncing a ball between them just a moment before the picture was snapped. The two larger boys (in the immediate background) admittedly belong to the gang. Negro and white boys admit frankly that they fight each other because they have nothing better to do. The white boys want the abandoned, and boarded-up old Riverside Hospital, below, as a clubhouse, where both Negro and white perhaps could get together.

—Daily Worker photos.

tions in that neighborhood.

These Negro and white kids wouldn't fight each other if they lived and played together. Segregation and discrimination—Jimcrow housing—are at the bottom of it.

Negro and white children, in the meantime, wish to be friends. They say so. It is their elders' responsibility to help these kids realize this healthy desire.



## Interracial Center Set Up for Youths

What is believed to be the first interracial teen-age canteen in the U. S. has been opened at St. Augustine church, Prospect Ave. and 165th St. by the Bronx American Young Men's Voluntary Services and the church.

The canteen was opened Friday with a membership of 70 Spanish, Negro and Jewish boys and girls and it is expected that by the end of the summer the canteen will serve as a recreational center for 300 young people of the neighborhood. 7-16-45

—or," he added quickly, "gymnasiums, with qualified trainers," at the head of the list.

"Give the kids an outlet for their energies," he said, expanding the topic, "by letting the bigger boys—the boys of gang age—have gyms, where they can go and let off steam."

"The first thing the new City Council ought to do is improve housing," declared Ned L. Jones, owner of the Subway Barbershop, 131 St. and Lenox Ave. "After that I'd like to see them pay some attention to the crime situation."

### CRIME SUPPRESSION

## Harlem Voters Think First of Housing

By EUGENE GORDON

If we accept a sampling of Harlem opinion as typical, we may say with some assurance that the community wants better housing ahead of everything else. The following question was put to 10 Harlemites met at random yesterday on Seventh and Lenox Aves.:

"Harlem, along with the rest of New York, is electing a City Council in November. What would you say is its most important job, as far as Harlem is concerned?"

"I'd say the man I vote for should do what he can to lower the cost of living, especially rent," said Henry Dean, 469 Lenox Ave., owner of a moving and storage business. "People are living five, six and 10 in one room. They want to move, but they can't find apartments. And that makes business bad for me, too."

### JOB OF FIRST IMPORTANCE

William K. Johnson, owner of the Lafayette Funeral Auto Service, 2327 Seventh Ave., thought the business of improving housing in Harlem was the City Council's job of first importance. After that, he said, something should be done about fair play in employment. The city, as well as the state, has a responsibility in this matter, he said.

"I'd say slum clearance and new housing, first of all," William Young, interior decorator, 457 Lenox Ave., suggested. "Next, in my opinion, is to tackle juvenile delinquency."

Daniel Middleton, 216 W. 143 St., put "slum clearance and playgrounds

Another man, who said he'd better not give his name, also listed crime suppression as most important. He thought, however, that if Harlem's general living conditions were improved there would be less crime there.

"Bad living conditions makes bad people," he said, repeating it several times. "Improve the living conditions and you improve the people."

Marshall Fox said that if it were left to him he "would tell them to hurry up and get rid of the slums that put up decent housing." Mr. Fox, a salesman at 359 Lenox Ave., called attention to "the unsanitary conditions" in Harlem, pointing out that the people didn't need to wait for an election "to have that mess cleaned up."



80b-1945

# NEGRO LEADERS

## IN CHEST NAMED

*Birmingham Age Herald*

General Chairman Don H. Mar-  
ing yesterday announced the ap-  
pointment of the Rev. J. A. Hunter  
to head the Negro residential divi-  
sion of the United Community and  
War Chest appeal of Birmingham  
and Jefferson County. For the  
past four years he has been pas-  
tor of the Thirgood C. M. E.  
Church, Sixth Avenue and North  
14th Street.

Prof. B. M. Montgomery, princi-  
pal, Rosedale School, was named  
co-chairman.

These appointments were in line  
with recommendations made by the  
Negro Advisory Council of the  
Community Chest, through Robert  
Burr, its chairman, and were acted  
upon readily by the appeal lead-  
ers.

Since his pastorate here be-  
gan, the pastor has liquidated a  
\$16,000 church debt, which was  
paid out in three years, and more  
than \$40,000 has been raised for all  
church purposes during his four  
years as pastor here.

He is a native of North Carolina,  
studied at Shaw University, N. C.,  
and finished the study of theology  
in Friendship College, Rock Hill,  
S. C., where he received his bach-  
elor's degree. For three years he  
served in the Spanish-American  
War in the Philippines, with the 25th  
Regiment, U. S. Infantry.

He has held pastorates in Phil-  
adelphia, Pa., Washington, D. C.,  
Richmond, Va., Norfolk, Va., Win-  
ston-Salem, N. C., and Montgom-  
ery.

He is a member of the United  
Spanish War Veterans, also of the  
Southern Negro Youth Conference,  
and of the Alabama Commission on  
Inter-racial Cooperation, and the  
National Association for the Ad-  
vancement of Colored People, as  
well as other civic and patriotic  
groups.

Declaring the Negro residential  
division this Fall will raise its  
quota, the pastor announced the  
following committee:

Arthur B. Shores, chairman of  
the speakers' bureau; Emory O.  
Jackson, publicity bureau; the Rev.  
F. E. Harper, A. M. E. Church,  
church organizations; C. J. Greene,  
insurance section leader, and Prof.  
C. W. Hayes, schools.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.  
NEWS

Circ. D. 127,124

SEP 16 1945

## What Negroes Are Doing

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

One of the most needful things  
for our community at this time is a  
social center for Negro boys and  
girls, and more social service work-  
ers among Negro people—not po-  
licemen necessarily, but men and  
women who have been trained and  
developed in human affairs and  
have knowledge of and interest in  
the social needs of people.

Our church and fraternal order  
buildings would do well to spare  
space and initiate such a program,  
and see it through.

Birmingham is a great and grow-  
ing city—great in resources and  
property. It is the duty of us all  
to see to it that the youth among  
us are provided for, and that those  
regarded as waywards are super-  
vised and directed to a higher  
plane of life.

Our ministers and teachers and  
many other social workers have  
done and are doing a creditable  
work, but their efforts should be  
augmented and their services  
strengthened through the increased  
activity of other agencies. Very re-  
cently the writer was impressed  
with what was done in one of our  
communities where a large num-  
ber of Negroes live. The story is  
told by Rev. Clayton Powell, Sr.,  
pastor emeritus of the Abyssinian  
Baptist Church of New York City,  
whom the writer has known well  
for a number of years.

Dr. Powell, in his recently pub-  
lished book "Riots and Ruins," has  
this to say in writing on responsi-  
bility:

"Nearly a quarter of a century  
ago the Abyssinian Baptist Church,  
at the cost of \$334,000, erected and  
furnished an institution on 138th  
Street in the heart of the juvenile-  
hoodlum neighborhood. The well-  
organized young criminal gangs  
were invited to make this commu-  
nity house their headquarters and  
home. We said to these boys, 'This  
is your home, we built it for you.  
They surely used it. They used our  
spacious halls and beautiful audi-  
torium as toilets; markings on the  
walls and floor furnished proof of  
this.

"They specialized in stealing ice  
cream from the girls' clubs. A coat  
or hat could not be left anywhere  
for 10 minutes. They stole the bas-  
ket balls as fast as we could buy  
them.

"These gangsters made them-  
selves so much at home that they  
finally entered the deacons' room,  
stole the communion wine and

## Alabama

carried away the communion lin-  
en which had cost us \$6 a yard.  
The last act in these depredations  
was to break a hole in stained  
glass window so they could pass  
the bottles of wine out on the side  
of the church without being de-  
tected.

"The leaders of these gangs were  
finally made leaders in the com-  
munity house and given the respon-  
sibility of watching these boys. In  
less than five years the gangs lost  
their identity and behaved like  
civilized young men.

"A sufficient number of centers  
like the Abyssinian Community  
House, in any colored settlement,  
operated by the Big Brother move-  
ment, can transform the majority of  
the young hoodlums into valuable  
men.

"The man who led in the build-  
ing of the Abyssinian Baptist  
Church and Community House and  
the author of this and three other  
books was a hoodlum."

An Appeal from Tuskegee  
*Richmond Times Dispatch*  
Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

The imminence of widespread  
mechanization in cotton production  
and the generally insecure position  
of Southern sharecropper families  
now and following the reconver-  
sion period, present many prob-  
lems for rural areas, which during  
the next few months will be diffi-  
cult for adjustment.

In some sections, due to delays  
and uncertainties incident to the  
return of peacetime economy, the  
present unhappy situation for  
many Negro farm families will  
probably reach its most acute  
stage during the coming Winter  
months.

For many years, Tuskegee In-  
stitute has served as a medium  
for receiving gifts of clothing and  
other necessities and distributing  
them to disadvantaged and indi-  
gent families. Already appeals  
from such families have been re-  
ceived by us for clothing for chil-  
dren entering school, which indi-  
cates that at Christmastime chil-  
dren in such homes will be denied  
pleasures of the holiday season for  
which they so eagerly and hope-  
fully yearn. The empty Christmas  
stocking may represent an eco-  
nomic principle, but to them it is  
a tearful and tragic disappoint-  
ment.

Our field workers who serve in  
rural areas tell many heart-  
warming stories of how gifts sent  
in the past by devoted friends  
have dispelled the chill and spirit-  
ual depression of poverty-stricken  
homes and helped to mend the  
family ties so often weakened  
when severe want exists.

We, therefore, solicit discarded  
clothing, shoes, books, toys, pic-  
tures and other such articles for  
our annual distribution. Many  
friends prefer to send money. All  
gifts are used with utmost care  
and discretion to reach the need-  
iest and most deserving families.

Packages and letters may be  
addressed to the undersigned.

F. D. PATTERSON,  
President, Tuskegee Institute,  
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.



20b-1945  
HARTFORD, CONN.  
COURANT  
Circ. D. 47,872 - S. 80,138

SEP 24 1945

## Connecticut

### Records Spin At St. Benedict Center Open House

and recreational needs of all people in the North End, both colored and white, nearly 3000 visitors, including Most Rev. Henry J. O'Brien, bishop of the Hartford Diocese, inspected the center's facilities.

second-floor Sara Finley Memorial Library and adjacent reading and study rooms as prospective center members and guests commented on the large and varied collection of books for children and adults, and studied an impressive poster dis-

to all of the North End community a guest room on part of the second and third floors. The chapel of St. Benedict the Moor was designed "by an ecclesiastical architect in accordance with liturgical tradition. The sanctuary, walled in oak, is laid out to accommodate the altar, sedelia and credence table, and three lancet arches in the wall at the Epistle side open on an adjacent room reserved for the choir to supplement the chapel's capacity of 100 persons. Stations of the Cross in colored plaster are affixed to sidewalls. On either side of the altar, brackets on the back wall support statues of the Sacred Heart and of the Blessed Mother. A statue of St. Benedict, as yet unfinished, will be placed in the sanctuary wall on the Gospel side.

HARTFORD, CONN.  
COURANT  
Circ. D. 47,872 - S. 80,138

SEP 23 1945

### St. Benedict Center Fitted For Service

#### North End Building Open To Public, Program To Start

Open house at St. Benedict Center, 2149 Main Street, newly instituted center of religious, educational, cultural and recreational activities in the North End, will mark its official opening today from 2 to 6 p. m.

St. Benedict's, which constitutes the second center in the state established primarily for Negroes, is named for St. Benedict the Moor, a Sixteenth Century Sicilian Franciscan monk, patron saint of Negroes of North America. The other center is that of Blessed Martin de Porres in New Haven.

Directed by Rev. Dr. John J. Loughlin, formerly professor at St. Thomas Seminary and director of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine of the Hartford Diocese, the center will undertake a full program of activities after today, including continuance of an outdoor playground which was in operation throughout the summer. Father Loughlin will be assisted by Rev. Robert McGrath, professor at St. Thomas Seminary and Catholic chaplain at Trinity College.

Housed in a three-story building, previously occupied by six apartments and now renovated to accommodate the center's varied program, the final touches of painting and arrangement of furnishings were completed Saturday, representing almost a year's work of remodeling and redecorating. The building will be open for inspection by the public today.

The general floor plan of the center provides for a chapel, director's office and recreation room on the first floor, a library, classroom, story-hour and study rooms on the second floor and a large social room and home economics department on the third floor. The building also contains an eight-room private apartment which is occupied by the priests' residential quarters, a housekeeper's room and

A baptismal font is recessed in the wall just outside the altar rail on the Epistle side, and a confessional is located off the right aisle. Pews, confessional, altar and crucifix are of oak.

Although St. Benedict Center does not constitute a parish of the diocese, mass is celebrated in the chapel daily at 8 a. m. and on Sundays at 9 and 11 a. m.

The first floor recreation room will double as an auditorium for evening lectures. By means of sliding doors, it can be subdivided into three smaller rooms for ping pong, billiards and other games. Game equipment will be stored in an alcove to make room for dancing at night.

The library affords a well-chosen assortment of more than 700 catalogued volumes of children's stories, reference books and adult fiction and non-fiction. A file listing all books was prepared and cataloguing done by a representative of the Hartford Public Library, under whose supervision volunteer library workers will be organized. One corner of the room adjacent to the magazine collection is furnished with comfortable chairs for browsing, in addition to tables for work and study.

Facilities for small social gatherings are provided in the third floor social room which is furnished with groupings of chairs and sofas, a writing desk, record player and bookcases. An extension of the social room offers card tables and tables for chess and checkers.

Part of the educational program, the home economics department has a complete kitchen for cookery courses and a bedroom for home nursing instruction. Affiliation with the Hartford Adult School of the Board of Education will afford a wide choice of courses of instruction in various fields, designed to meet the vocational, educational and social needs of members of the center.

Of particular interest are classes in elementary adult education and citizenship classes, which will give instruction in the reading and writing of English and essentials of American government to prepare adults of foreign birth for their citizenship examination.

In addition, members may complete the equivalent of a high school education with subsequent receipt of a high school certificate granted by the State Department of Education by means of tutorial classes in regular high school subjects. Counsellors will evaluate any previous training and outline a program for

daily all afternoon and evening, and for special courses in the morning.

Listening to records at open house at St. Benedict Center, 2194 Main Street, Sunday afternoon are: Miss Ernestine E. Timmons of 34 Bellevue Square, a hospital worker; Salvatore Antogiovanni of 37 Capen Street, high school student; Mrs. Ruth D. Rhea of 5 Vincent Road, East Hartford, housewife; Rev. Robert McGrath, assistant director of the center; Harold D. Mendes of 14 Bellevue Square, high school student; Salvatore Scaraville of 305 Bellevue Street, high school student; and Rev. John J. Laughlin, director. (Courant Photo.)

### St. Benedict Center Has Open House

#### Many Visitors Inspect New Catholic Community Building

Open House at St. Benedict Center, 2194 Main Street, brought throngs of visitors to view Hartford's first community center for Negroes Sunday afternoon.

Greeted at the door by Rev. John J. Laughlin, director of the center which has been established to meet the religious, educational, cultural

#### Special Prayers

A steady stream of priests, nuns, ministers, adults, young people, children and even a few infants passed through the flower-bedecked center and around its grounds during the four-hour open house from 2 to 6 p. m. The majority of them, upon entering the center, stopped to pray in the Chapel of St. Benedict the Moor, located just inside the front door. Special prayers to St. Benedict, a sixteenth century Sicilian Franciscan monk and patron saint of Negroes of North America, were offered at the regular masses celebrated in the chapel Sunday morning.

Passing on to the large recreation room also on the first floor, many visitors joined with their friends in listening to recordings, playing ping pong and billiards or sitting on the sidelines, content to be spectators of the varied activities.

Comparative quiet reigned in the

play illustrating noteworthy Negro artists, scientists, men of letters, sportsmen, educators, war heroes, and musicians.

The library is named after a former teacher at the Asenal School who died in September, 1944, and was founded through a fund established by Arsenal School teachers in her memory.

#### Favored Spot

A favored spot in the center Sunday afternoon was the home economics department's modern kitchen, where open drawers and cupboards displayed an orderly array of dinnerware and cooking utensils and an electric stove and refrigerator stood ready for cooking and home-making classes to take over.

Card games and checker contests among younger boys and girls maintained a high tempo of activity, while another record player provided music in the center's upper floor.

St. Benedict Center, which is open





## Library at Center Has 700 Volumes



A corner of the library in St. Benedict Center affords comfortable chairs for browsing, as well as tables for reference work and study. Bookshelves containing over 700 catalogued volumes of children's stories, adult fiction and non-fiction and reference books line the walls, with one section devoted to magazines and bulletin board display of new book jackets. (Courant Photo.)



# Warren Williams Homes to Open June 15; Negro Families to Move from 'Tent City'

BY SARA MCPHEE

The \$900,000 dream to build a modern Negro housing project in Columbus through joint financing by federal funds and private enterprise has become a reality.

Some units of the 160-family the Warren Williams Homes will be ready for occupancy by June 15, it was announced Saturday by Brown Nicholson, executive director of the Columbus Housing Authority.

The Authority has already started taking applications for tenancy at the office of the Booker T. Washington apartments.

"We're putting the last coat of paint on five of the buildings now," Mr. Nicholson explained. "The water heaters have already come, so we are sure that families can start moving into these homes by the middle of the month. Others will be moved in as each unit is completed."

The middle of the month can't come too soon for some of the families who were required to move from the squalid shacks that formerly dotted Wynn's Hill.

## 'Tent City' to Close

Mr. Nicholson called attention to the "tent city" that has sprung up on Midway street just to the rear of the new homes.

"When the government gave the order to tear the houses down, these people found some army tents and rented the ground and 'put up housekeeping' in them," he said.

"There are no water or sanitation facilities in the tents. The families cook on a tiny two-eyed stove which heats up the tents miserably in winter, and makes it almost unbearable in summer. Their only means of lighting is by kerosene lamps. The only ventilation is through the small door flap.

"Many of the families have children. Since a double bed almost takes up the entire floor space of the 16 by 16 foot tent, there is little room for even a table or chairs to say nothing of extra beds for the children.

"To meet this space shortage, the families have stacked up boxes of clothes and household articles outside their tents in lieu of unpacking them inside."

## Among First to Move

Mr. Nicholson said the approximately ten families who were living in the tents would be among the first to move into a new home.

"Unless they are war workers, though, they aren't eligible to live in the Warren Williams Homes which were built exclusively for

Negro war workers.

"To meet this problem, the families will probably be moved into the low income Booker T. Washington apartments where vacancies will be created by moving war workers from those units into the new project."

Words can hardly compare the lives the "tent city" families will live after they move.

For example, circulating heaters will be furnished for each apartment; gas stoves and water heaters will already be in the modern kitchens when the housewives move in. Modern built-in cabinets are constructed under sinks and shelves for dishes are above.

## Clothes Closets

The housewife will find nice clothes closets in bed rooms, and a linen closet at the bathroom entrance.

The walls are a pleasant beige with blending dark woodwork. Numerous steel windows afford modern ventilation by opening out instead of sliding up and down.

On the exterior, the finished product does justice to the skilled artist's blueprint conception of the modern apartment.

Of red brick, the houses are trimmed with white and each has a porch to rock on. Architects explain that they are "simplified colonial design."

## Landscaping to Come

Saturday, huge bulldozers were clearing streets between the neat rows of houses in preparation for streets. Landscaping will be the next job tackled.

Mr. Nicholson recalled that the project was begun a little more than 200 days ago.

"We should have been finished by February 28 but uncooperative weather added a few more wrinkles and gray hairs to the ones the contractors were already getting by having to solve labor and material scarcities.

"The city is putting in streets for us and the county will build two concrete bridges over the Weracoba Creek on a mutual agreement that the city pay material costs."

## Rent Schedule Given

Now that the Williams homes are there, beautifying one of the 50-year eye-sores of Columbus, the rent schedule has been announced.

"The schedule will be almost the same as for the Booker T. Washington," Mr. Nicholson pointed out.

"A family which includes one or

more war workers with a maximum income under \$1,320 yearly would pay \$22 monthly for a one-bedroom apartment; \$24 for a two-bedroom unit; and \$26 for a three-bedroom unit. These are maximum rents.

"The rents are based on a sliding scale related to the families' income. For example, a family which has an exceedingly low income can rent a three bedroom apartment and pay only \$10 monthly."

One of the most amazing features of the rental rates is that out of these low rents, the project furnishes cooking gas, electricity and water.

## 'Better Way of Life'

In line with the Authority's policy to "not just act as a rental agency but to do our best in helping the tenants attain a better way of life and be better citizens," progressive features will be available to the Negro families.

"Education will play an important part," the director explained.

"Such programs as nutrition classes, sewing classes, music, art and other subjects will be featured. A library will be included later if books can be secured.

"A health clinic will be centrally located among the homes.

"We have already planned a complete recreation center for the Negro tenants. Activities available through the Center will include parties, competitive games and events, story-telling under expert supervision, and gatherings by the teen-agers after school and in the early evenings.

"A playground will be maintained for the young. We have turned the operation over to Miss Edwina Wook, superintendent of the City Department of Recreation. The playground will not be exclusively for children who live in the project, but will be open to other children of the district, as are other city-operated playgrounds such as the Peabody apartments playground," Mr. Nicholson said.

## Advisory Committee

Racial problems that may pop up from time to time will be handled jointly by an appointed Negro Advisory Committee and the five members of the Authority.

The Negro members are E. E. Farley, chairman; B. H. Price, secretary, E. B. Coffee, the Rev. H. I. Bearden and W. A. Talley.

The decision to move the residents of "tent city" into the Booker T. Washington Homes was made after a recent joint meeting of this

committee with the Authority.

Credit must be given to the five unpaid, city-minded men who comprise the Housing Authority Board of commissioners.

## Appointed by City

They are appointed by the city commission. Mr. Nicholson, the board's executive director, works directly under the board.

Members consist of Theo J. McGee, chairman since 1939; E. J. Knight, vice chairman, and members A. H. Chapman, Henry Morton, and Walter Richards.

"They are responsible for the initiation, planning, development and operation of an adequate public housing program in the city," Mr. Nicholson cited.

"They are responsible to the people of Columbus and their elected commission."

Not only Mr. Nicholson, but the man on the street of Columbus has been loud in his praise of the job started by the Authority and carried out by Contractor A. Farnell Blair, Decatur, who constructed the beautiful new homes.

## Important Development

The words of Chairman McGee and Mr. Nicholson, spoken last August when the homes were merely a blueprint on the desks of Biggers and Lockwood, architects, are a fitting monument and have proved to be facts.

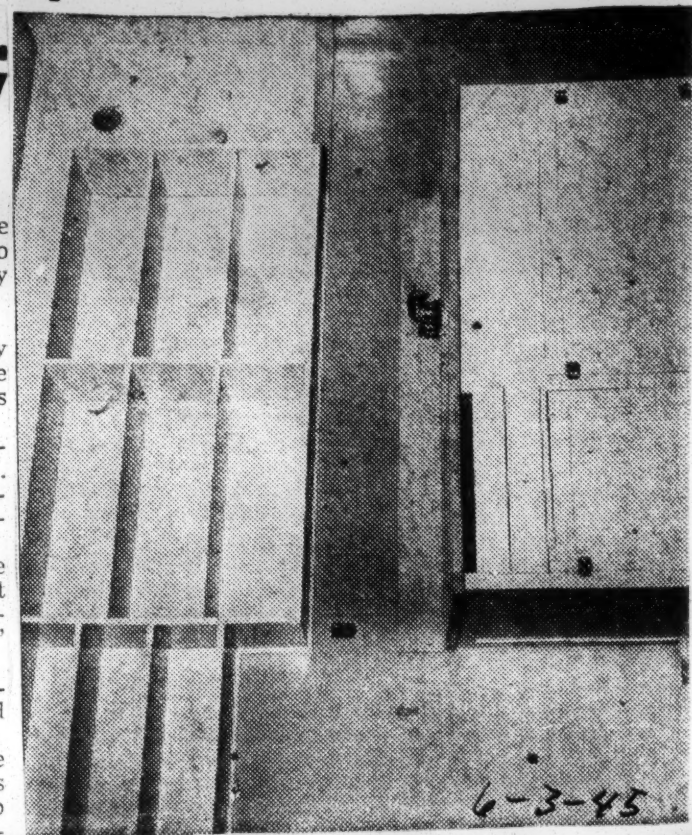
"It will be the prettiest housing development we have yet constructed," Mr. Nicholson predicted.

"It is undoubtedly the most important civic development in the history of this community," Mr. McGee added.

"National housing authorities in Washington have called the development the 'finest example of community cooperation, and the only case where local business men have made actual cash gifts to public housing.'

"We shall receive national publicity for this," he forecast.

National publicity and praise has ensued.





COLUMBUS, GA.  
LEDGER-ENQUIRER

Cir. S. 22,678

JUN 3 - 1945



## Modern Housing Soon to Open to Negro Residents of 'Tent City'

The Warren Williams Homes, several units of which are shown at top left photo, will be open to Negro war workers by June 15, the Columbus Housing Authority has announced. The beautiful new apartment buildings, which will house 160 families, will do away with such scenes as those in the upper and lower right hand photos. The "tent city," located on Midway, houses some of the families who were dispossessed when 83 houses on

Wynn's Hill were razed to make way for the new homes. Daisy Battle is shown cooking supper in her one-room tent home where she lives with her husband, Will Battle. Later this summer, Daisy and other Negro housewives like her, will be preparing meals in the modern, clean kitchens like the one shown at the lower left. Gas stoves, water heaters, and heating units are furnished with each of the low-rental apartments.



According to D. Kenneth Rose, national secretary of the Planned Parenthood Federation, "this country must concern itself more and more with its mothers and its children regardless of their race, creed or color." 12-5-45

The officials of the center hope that it will help to stamp out cancer, tuberculosis and venereal diseases by reaching "young married people soon enough to give them the right guidance." They said their desire was "that young people be encouraged to have their families while they are young."

## HARLEM DEDICATES PARENTHOOD CENTER

*N.Y. Times*  
The Harlem planned parenthood center under the auspices of the New York committee of Mothers Health Centers was dedicated yesterday at 271 West 125th Street "to honor the work done in Harlem" by the late Dr. Hannah M. Stone. Her husband, Dr. Abraham Stone, said it always had been "the delight of Dr. Hannah to make life for Harlem mothers happier and more hopeful." 12-5-45

The Harlem center originally was housed in 1936 with the Harlem Urban League at 202 West 136th Street. Last year it was decided to expand its services and to move "closer to the center of the Harlem population."

Edward S. Lewis, executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York, declared that "Harlem with its congested housing, its high mortality rate and its excessive still-birth rate needs every available resource."



80b-1945

Illinois

CHICAGO, ILL.  
HERALD-AMERICAN  
Cir. D. 463,410 — S. 863,091

JUN 17 1945

## Mayor Proclaims Improvement Day

June 28th, designated as "Neighborhood Improvement Day," in a proclamation by Mayor Kelly, will inaugurate a week of intensified effort to stimulate Chicago Negroes to better their living conditions. Emily Taft Douglas, congresswoman-at-large from Illinois, will speak at a July 4th rally in Washington Park.



## The Improvement of Family Life Is Chief Aim of Smith County Home Demonstration

TYLER, Texas. — To organize and plan successfully for reaching a definite goal, Home Demonstration council and 4-H club girls have labored according to certain outlined plans. The county Agricultural and 4-H councils assisted in various activities.

The county extension program of Smith county is under the supervision of B. J. Pryor, county agricultural agent and Mrs. Hattie R. G. Sneed, county home demonstration agent, offices in County Courthouse, Tyler, Texas, working in 22 communities and 7 neighborhoods with its chief aim to improve family life in the county.

The county population is 69,090, with 36.6 per cent of this number, Negroes.

Demonstrations are given along with numerous aids and plans to improve the home food supply, in garden and garden products, poultry and meats. Through 4-H councils, meet monthly. The the expansion program, 3,895 Victory Agricultural council confamilies and urban, as well, have been reached. As a result of demonstrations carried on, 723 home visits were made, 166 method demonstrations were conducted with an attendance of 2,465 persons, 40 training meetings with 2,499 attending, 23 result demonstrations, with 692 attending, and 3,117 bulletins of various kinds were distributed to individuals as requested by the leaders of their respective communities and others.

The number of containers of vegetables canned was: 864,500, valued at \$302,575; brined 3,350, valued at \$1,675; dried, 3,070, valued at \$1,675; frozen, 1,875, fruits, 708,375, valued at \$247,931.25; brined, 1,021, valued at \$816.80. Dried 7,713, valued at \$1,542.60. Frozen, 3,750. Meats, 36,250, valued at \$21,750 and 5,250, frozen.

Bedroom work was accomplished by 20 women demonstrators and 850 cooperators, 18 girls, as demonstrators and cooperators. The women and girls added 1,539 articles of bedding, 1,220 dresser scarves and 530 bedspreads and rugs.

Clothing work resulted in the making of 1,357 dresses, including renovation work, 180 aprons, 315 cuptowels, and 122 undergarments, valued at \$2,122.

Three-hundred and sixteen women and girls engaged in home industry, sold eggs, poultry, milk, vegetables, bedspreads and rugs, amounted to, \$6,355.90.

The Fourth through the Sixth War Loan drives were successfully conducted with Negroes of Smith County as a result to date, a total of \$175,000 has been in-

## Improvement of Family

ceived treatment at the Tuskegee Infantile Paralysis Center. The National Foundation has since 1941 granted \$414,356.69 to the Center from funds collected. In the annual March of Dimes. Local chapters have made additional grants, totaling some \$100.00, besides paying for treatment of patients in their own communities.

### LEARN PHOTOGRAPHY

Vocational rehabilitation of patients and education of child sufferers of the disease are also provided at Tuskegee. A boy from Georgia, who was stricken with poliomyelitis learned commercial photography while undergoing treatment at Tuskegee. A young man from Oklahoma makes his living as a linotype operator as a result of his training at the infantile paralysis center. Patients have their choice to all the regular vocational courses offered at Tuskegee Institute.

The Tuskegee Infantile Paralysis Center is one of the few medical centers where Negro physicians and nurses can gain experience as specialists in various departments of medicine and surgery and where the best and latest facilities and findings in medical science are available to them. It is intended that the Center will become one of the great Negro medical science training centers.

### MODERN FACILITIES

The infantile paralysis center, housed in a modern, three-story, fireproof building which was erected in 1941 at a cost of \$172,256, is a special unit in the hospital services of the John A. Andrews Memorial Hospital at Tuskegee. The staff of the Center consists of the head orthopedic surgeon, an assistant to the orthopedic surgeon, a laboratory technician, two physical therapists, two Kenny treatment technicians, six graduate nurses, a dietitian, six attendants, four orderlies, a housekeeper, an administrative assistant, and the maintenance engineer.

A 20,000-gallon, temperature controlled pool is a feature of the physical therapy facilities which occupy the first floor of the Center. Laboratories, treatment rooms, a brace-fitting room, class rooms and offices are the second floor. Rooms and wards, with 33 beds for patients, a model diet kitchen utility rooms and sanitary facilities are on the third floor.

### HAVE WAITING LIST

Additional facilities are under construction to reduce the need for maintaining a waiting list. Patients are referred to Tuskegee by The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. A few apply direct to the Tuskegee Center.

The educational work at the Center is a joint venture of Tuskegee Institute, and the Alabama State

Department of Education. Vocational rehabilitation of patients is achieved through cooperation of the Institute with the vocational rehabilitation departments and state commissions for crippled children in the patients' home states.

The age range of patients at the Center has been from one year to 26 years. They come from Georgia, Kentucky, New York, Tenn., Miss., Oklahoma, Maryland, Louisiana, Virginia, Florida, Ohio, Alabama, and South Carolina. No victim of the disease has been denied care for lack of funds.

## Drive Opens To Shelter Aged Negroes

A nationwide drive to raise a \$2,500,000 emergency fund to establish an industrial home for aged and orphaned Negroes, the first institution of its kind in the United States, will begin tomorrow.

To be located in Crisp county, four miles west of Cordele on a 4,000-acre tract of sandy loam and limestone through which flow several streams, the proposed institution will serve as a haven for aged and indigent Negroes and as an industrial and educational center for young Negro orphans.

Plans for the home were begun by the Rev. Joseph E. Johnson, retired Negro minister, 13 years ago, and during this time he has obtained endorsement from such state religious and civic leaders as Judge Virlyn B. Moore, Dr. James W. Middleton, of the First Baptist church; Dr. Louie D. Newpackers, six graduate nurses, a dietitian, of Druid Hills Baptist church; L. E. Williams, chairman of Crisp County Board of Commissioners; Charles L. Bowden, mayor of Macon; Dr. A. G. Harris, of the Macon First Presbyterian church, and M. D. Collins, state superintendent of schools.

Recently incorporated under the title, "The Aged and Orphans Industrial Home of America," the institution will be a nonprofit and a nondenominational organization. Entry into the home will not be limited by state lines, and needy Negro persons throughout the United States who meet the necessary requirements will be eligible.

Hundreds of acres of the fertile Crisp county land will be cultivated with farm products, peanuts, sweet potatoes, hay and cover crops to defray the expenses of the home. Herds of cattle will provide dairy products for the home's residents.

The corporation hopes eventually to build classrooms, work shops, a hospital and clinic, nurses' and maids' homes, an administration building, a chapel, and a dairy and stock barn.

Construction of these buildings, however, is not estimated in the present drive for \$2,500,000, the amount necessary to liquidate present debts and to set up emergency buildings.

## FUND BEGUN TO HELP DESTITUTE NEGROES

Kinston, July 1.—Dr. W. E. Keiter today started a fund to rebuild the home of Anakie Chestnut, respected elderly Negro resident, whose dwelling was completely destroyed by a fire a few nights ago. Firemen were unable to save the home, because it was not near enough the easternmost fire hydrant in the city. The Salvation Army began a campaign this week to rehabilitate and reclothe the family of six, while Dr. Keiter said he thought it would be fine if the citizens contributed enough money to rebuild the small frame structure. He started the fund with a check for \$25.

## Halt Million Of Polio Funds Go To Tuskegeens

## Patients From Thirteen States Get Treatment

NEW YORK CITY—(SNS) — More than half a million dollars for treatment of Negro victims of infantile paralysis has been spent at Tuskegee Institute, Ala., during the past four years, Basil O'Connor, president of The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, announced today.

Patients from communities in thirteen states without proper facilities for their local care have re-



# THEATRES JOIN MARCH OF DIMES

NEW YORK—All 409 Negro theatres have been invited to join in the 1945 March of Dimes Campaign of the motion picture industry to raise funds for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis to fight the greatcrippler, infantile paralysis.

One hundred and ninety-seven Negro theatres participated in the 1944 March of Dimes Campaign and collected \$34,481.40. It was announced by Nicholas M. Schenck, chairman National Motion Pictures 1945 March of Dimes Campaign.

## Negro Leaders Back

*Chicago Defender*

## March Of Dimes Drive

NEW YORK—Some of the nation's outstanding Negro leaders in all walks of life are heading the campaign for all-out support of the worthy March of Dimes Infantile Paralysis fund.

In press statements released in 13 states and the District of Columbia, the leaders endorsed and commended the efforts of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and its county chapters.

They were especially high in their praise for the \$171,000 fund set up by the foundation for after-effects treatment of polio victims at Tuskegee Institute Infantile Paralysis center.

The Tuskegee center is a 36-bed unit affiliated with the John A. Andrew Memorial hospital at the institute and cooperates with N.F.I.P. county chapters.

Basil O'Connor, president of the N.F.I.P., says that, "No victim of infantile paralysis shall be denied treatment because of lack of funds. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis provides aid to patients without regard to age, race, creed or color."

Negro campaign leaders include: Dr. D. O. W. Holmes, president, Morgan State college, Baltimore; Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, president and founder, Palmer Memorial institute, Sedalia, N. C.; Hon. C. C. Spaulding, president, North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance company, Durham, N. C.; Dr. W. R. Valentine, principal, State of New Jersey Manual Training school, Bordentown, N. J.; Homer S. Brown, member House of Representatives, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, Pa.; P. B. Young, president and publisher, Journal and Guide, Norfolk, Va.; Bishop W. J. Walls, Chicago;

President R. B. Atwood, Kentucky State college, Frankfort, Ky;

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, president, National Council of Negro Women, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Sadie T. M. Alexander, member

Raymond Pace Alexander law firm, Philadelphia; John W. Lancaster Jr., president, Bridgeport Branch N.A.A.C.P.; William O.

Walker, editor, Cleveland Call-Post; Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, president, Morehouse college, Atlanta,

and vice president of the Federal Council of Churches; Charles C. Diggs, member Senate, State of Michigan; Roscoe Dungee, president, National Negro Business league, Oklahoma City, Okla., and

Albert W. Dent, president, Dillard university, New Orleans



# Committee Puts Okeh On Wage-Hour Law

BY HUGH W. SPARROW  
News Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Gov. Sparks Thursday had won the opening round in a fight to enact a state wages and hours law, the interim committee on social welfare, after prodding by the governor, having recommended consideration of wages and hours regulation by the 1945 Legislature.

A clear-cut declaration by the governor to a subcommittee headed by Rep. Tram Sessions, Jefferson, that the strongly desired favorable action accelerated the social welfare committee's decision Wednesday afternoon. **3-1-45**

Although a majority of its members admittedly were opposed to state wages and hours legislation, the main committee bowed to the governor's wishes after a 30-minute discussion and a confusion of motions. **3-1-45**

Members not only cleared the way for legislative consideration of wages and hours proposals, but also authorized acceptance by the Sessions subcommittee of Gov. Sparks' suggestion that a thorough subcommittee study be made of wages and hours laws in effect in 26 other states before the Legislature opens its two-month session May 1.

Action on the wages and hours problem was one of several interim committee developments Wednesday.

Others included:

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1. APPROVAL BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE COMMITTEE of an increase in the annual appropriation for Tuskegee Institute from \$100,000 to \$200,000, along with a similar committee okeh of a subcommittee's report on racial conditions in Alabama.

2. Rejection by the agriculture and industries committee of a suggested severance tax on wood and other forest products.

3. Approval by the same committee of a plan to establish an additional demonstration farm in the western section of the upper coastal plains area in the vicinity of Monroe County.

4. An agriculture and industries committee okeh of a State Farm Bureau Federation proposal that Alabama encourage improvement of its dairy cattle through a system of artificial insemination.

5. Approval by the appropriations and finance committee of a \$20,000 increase in State Board of Pardons and Paroles annual appropriations, per cent in 1940. Fourteen per cent of Negro families in Alabama owned their own homes in 1900 and 20 per cent in 1940. In the nation, he continued, the ratio was 21.9 per cent in 1900 and 23.6 per cent in 1944.

6. Action by the state, county and municipal governments committee in recommending that the state pay costs of auditing county and city

books and, in turn, exercise closer supervision over finances of local governments, including issuance of bonds. **3-1-45**

IN RECOMMENDING THAT THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION for Tuskegee Institute be increased from \$100,000 to \$200,000, Sen. John H. Pinson, Sumter, subcommittee chairman, told the social welfare committee that the additional support would permit continuation of graduate instruction in agriculture, home economics and other fields and would extend graduate instruction to the field of veterinary medicine.

This action, he added, is in line with the governor's plan to develop Tuskegee Institute as a part of a proposed regional system of higher education for Negroes in the South.

In his report on race relations, Sen. Pinson declared subcommittee members had consulted leaders of both races as to their beliefs and recommendations. Negroes and white, alike, he said, agreed that further development of the races depended on a parity in economic and educational opportunity and not in social equality.

The state, he added, has made rapid progress toward these ends during the last 40 years, quoting figures showing that the percentage of Negroes between 5 and 20 years attending school had increased from 22.8 per cent in 1900 to 61.6 per cent in 1940, against a 31 per cent average for the nation as a whole in 1900 and a 64.4 per cent average in 1940.

The percentage of illiterate Negroes over 10, he added, decreased from 57.4 per cent in 1900 to 26.2 per cent in 1940, against a decline for the entire country of from 44.5 to 16.3 per cent. **3-1-45**

IN ADDITION, HE ADDED, THE PERCENTAGE of Negroes owning farms in Alabama increased from 15 per cent in 1900 to 21.4 per cent in 1940, and from 25.2 per cent for the nation as a whole in 1900 to 28 per cent in 1940.

Sen. Pinson's report added that the Negro's health likewise had improved during recent years. "In 1925 the total Negro death

## Social Welfare

rate, exclusive of still births, was 1,735.9 for each 100,000 and in 1940 it was 1,382.8," the report added. "The typhoid and paratyphoid fever death rate for Negroes changed from 23.5 to 2.2 a 100,000 from 1925 to 1940 and in the United States as a whole the reduction was from 24.9 to 3.2. The tuberculosis death rate for Negroes was reduced from 168.1 to 93.9 a 100,000 in Alabama during the same period. The United States Negro tuberculosis death rate fell from 221.3 to 128."

Similar declines were shown in the infant death rate, according to Sen. Pinson's report.

The report added: **3-1-45**  
"Clearly, then, the Alabama Negro has, in general terms, improved his position at a greater speed than the Negro in the United States has advanced. And, although in some regards the status of the Alabama Negro is slightly below that of the Negro in the United States, the differences have narrowed each succeeding year."

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"OUR CONCLUSION, THEREFORE, is that Alabama should continue her long-established trends of improving the educational opportunities, and the economic opportunities by way of education, of that race which constitutes one-third of our population in such manner as is economically feasible and otherwise warranted."

The report recommended that the Legislature consider action to assure adequacy of separate travel accommodations for both races and also statutory freedom from liability for damages for business enterprises which provide separate services or facilities for the two races.

During the 30 minutes the social welfare committee discussed the wages and hours proposal, Rep. Sessions told the committee Gov. Sparks had made it clear to his subcommittee that he desired favorable action on wages and hours legislation.

Rep. Sessions declared the governor expressed a desire to permit the Legislature to decide the minimum wage and the maximum hours. In addition, he said, the governor expressed a willingness to let the law go into effect only after the federal government has lifted wartime price controls.

Rep. Paul Hooton, of Randolph, who declared he reserved the right to fight a wages and hours bill on the floor of the House, moved that the committee "go on record as recommending that legislation concerning wages and hours law be considered by the 1945 Legislature."

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REP. J. FRED WOOD, BIBB, strongly opposed the Hooton motion but later withdrew his objections when the wording was slightly amended. **3-1-45**

After approving the Hooton recommendation, the committee authorized Rep. Sessions to accept Gov. Sparks' offer for a further subcommittee study of wages and

hours laws which have been enacted in several states. Such a study would be undertaken during April and subcommittee members were promised full pay by the governor out of his contingent fund.

Though the committee yielded to Gov. Sparks' desires on the wages and hours proposal, throughout the discussion the committee members hinted they would fight the measure if it came to a vote in either house of the Legislature.

An appeal by Sen. Will O. Walton, Chambers, committee chairman, was typical.

"I think I know how this committee feels," he declared, "but it isn't going to hurt the committee to vote to recognize that there is such a thing as a wages and hours situation confronting us in Alabama. I think it would not hurt this committee to recommend that legislation be proposed and I also think that the Legislature will take care of it once the proposal reaches the Legislature. Let's recommend it and we can vote the way we feel." **3-1-45**

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THE AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES committee rejected the forest products severance tax proposal, suggested by the Department of Conservation, by unanimous vote.

The artificial insemination program given committee endorsement calls for an initial appropriation of \$35,000 to set up the system, and an annual appropriation of \$12,000 for maintenance. The Farm Bureau Federation in outlining the proposal to the committee recently estimated the value of Alabama's dairy cattle would be doubled after the first generation due to artificial insemination from purebred bulls.

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THE STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL government committee's recommendations that the cities and counties shift cost of audits to the state was part of a report by a special subcommittee headed by Sen. Finis St. John, Jr., Cullman. The report also would prohibit local governments from issuing non-callable bonds.

All three members of the Board of Pardons and Paroles appeared before the appropriations and fi-

nance committee Wednesday in connection with an appeal for additional operating revenues. Board members asked for an increase of \$36,000, but the committee reduced the amount to \$20,000. This, it was declared, would be adequate to pay annual salaries and expenses for four additional probation officers.

The committee also heard Sen. James A. Simpson, Jefferson, outline a proposal whereby the Board of Pardons and Paroles would have authority to recommend probation to the Court of Appeals in the counties where the circuit judges refuse to act. An additional appropriation would be necessary for that service, he declared.

## RACE ISSUE FAILURE CHARGED TO AGENCIES

N.Y. Times

Douglas P. Falconer, director of the United Seamen's Service, told 200 board members of the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies that they had failed to face the problems presented by the recent influx of Negroes in many communities. He spoke at the luncheon session of the ninth annual all-day forum for board members of eighty-nine member agencies of the federation, held at the Junior League Clubhouse, 221 East Seventy-first Street. **4-11-45**

Voluntary agencies, unlike those of the State, are not under legal compulsion to care for all persons needing help, said Mr. Falconer, but, he added, that these agencies, which have been able to give their services on a selective basis, had failed to meet the needs of Negroes.

Mary L. Gibbons, deputy commissioner, New York State Department of Social Welfare, said that the record of governmental agencies in the field of public assistance was excellent and that New York City's public assistance program was "one of the best in the country."

Mrs. J. Horton Ijams of the Virginia Day Nursery was chairman of a morning meeting, at which Dr. Clyde Miller, associate professor of Teachers College and consultant on education for the League of Fair Play, and Dr. Luther H. Woodward, field consultant of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, spoke.



# Rush Work on Va. Key Beach

TO HAVE HOURLY TRANSPORTATION FROM 5TH STREET BRIDGE FROM 9 TIL 2. OR LATER

Making Virginia Beach accessible for Negroes to swim was the chief concern of Dade County Park Superintendent, J. D. Martin last week when more than a score of workers were carried out daily to put the beach in shape for swimming, clearing the west side of Virginia Key for picnic grounds and to construct cottages for caretaker, bath houses and toilets.

Although most of this work is temporary, it will be ample for usage of the beach until such time as materials are released for the permanent structure and development, which according to plan will make Virginia Key Beach one of the finest in the nation.

According to County Commissioner Crandon, the county has spared no effort in the development of this project. There will be one half mile of Beach front, picnic grounds fully equipped, bath houses, baseball field and parking lot to accommodate 1330 automobiles. An all concrete steel reinforced causeway will be completed as soon as war priorities are lifted.

The county has arranged with boating concerns for transportation from 5th street bridge to Virginia Key every hour from 9 a. m. til 2 p. m. Mr. Martin explained, however, that any necessary changes will be made to more adequately accommodate the beach attendants.

The Negro Citizens' Service League has placed an advertisement for a life guard. The league has also advised Negroes to not use Bakers Haulover in view of the fact that the Commission has asked that this be done and that it will only be a short while before Virginia Key can be used.

**Named Supervisor In**  
*The New York Age*  
**State Welfare Office**

*New York, N.Y.*  
Announcement was made Saturday of the appointment of Mrs. Janice L. Wardlaw as supervisor of public assistance in the New York State Department of Social Welfare, New York City office, 205 East 42nd street.

Well known in Harlem for her community interest, Mrs. Wardlaw

graduated from Shaw University and did graduate work at New York University where she majored in sociology. She also studied at the New York School of Social Work and Fordham School of Social Work.

Mrs. Wardlaw has been a teacher and at one time was employed by the New York Urban League to supervise its relief work during the depression. Later she was employed in the Transit Division of New York State, and was more recently supervisor in the New York City Department of Welfare.

Mrs. Wardlaw is the wife of McSwain Wardlaw, New York State parole officer.



Atlanta, Ga. Daily World

9-28-45



**FOLLOWING 'GOOD NEIGHBOR' HONOR OVER NETWORK**—Mrs. Sarah Murphy, founder and operator of the Sarah Murphy Home for Negro Children at Rockmart, Georgia, is shown posed with Ar-

nouncer Malcolm Richards at the 'good neighbor' was cited. Mrs. Radio Station WAGA microphone Murphy is now in line for the annual \$1,000 Good Neighbor Award network broadcast from Hollywood to be made early next year. (SNS California, in which her work as Photo.)

**Georgia Teacher Winner of Good Neighbor Award**  
The Afro American  
Baltimore, Maryland  
10-13-45

ATLANTA (ANP)—"Breakfast in Hollywood," a radio show broadcast from California by the American Broadcasting Company, last week, honored Mrs. Sarah Murphy of Polk County, Ga., for her service in salvaging the lives of 48 boys and girls in her children's home near Rockmart. Tom Breneman, M.C., stretched its "Good Neighbor" hand from the coast to declare Mrs. Murphy the week's nominee for the \$1,000 Good Neighbor award which will be made early next year.

A white Rockmart matron, Mrs. Rufus Campbell, had nominated Mrs. Murphy for the honor. Mrs. Murphy describes it, "a shanty for the 23 boys." There is a definite need for larger and better

quarters, and several sources have begun to organize to aid the home. California. In the radio studio, Mrs. Murphy sat smiling and silent as the Good Neighbor letter was read over the network.

#### Served 48 Children

The home, as Mrs. Murphy puts it, "is just a shanty," but it has been a haven for 48 children since she founded it and has given three men to the armed forces. The home "just grew" when Mrs. Murphy, a country school teacher, found herself with six children on her hands at their mother's death. She and her husband took the children in to care for them on their meager earnings because, she said, "God wanted me to do so." Other children came into the home from all over North Georgia, and soon, without realizing it, Mrs. Murphy had founded an institution. Mrs. Murphy continued teaching, because to her this caring for motherless children constituted part of her duties to the community.

The institution now has three buildings, the Murphy home, a dormitory for the girls and, as Mrs. Murphy describes it, "a shanty for the 23 boys." There is a

## Fund Campaign for Negro Blind School Extended

"I have been blind since 1923. It seemed that I had no friends. Since I have been attending classes at the Center, I feel like I am living in a new world." W-75-45

Behind these words, written by Minnie Spears, but echoed by some 80 other blind Negroes, is the story of the School for Colored Blind at the First Congregational church at 103 Courtland street.

The half-way mark in the drive for funds for the Metropolitan Association for Colored Blind, which sponsors the school, has been reached and the drive has been extended to Dec. 7, Mrs. Wallace Van Jackson, acting director, announced. 11-25-45

The school, which instructs the sightless Negroes in reading Braille, typing, handicraft, literature, music and dramatics, is dependent en-

## Basil O'Connor Is Reappointed Red Cross Chief

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11—(AP)—President Truman today reappointed Basil O'Connor, of New York, as national chairman of the American Red Cross.

In addition to the reappointment of O'Connor for a one-year term, Charles G. Ross, White House press secretary, said the President made the following other appointments to the Red Cross Central Committee:

William L. Clayton, assistant of state; Treasury Secretary Fred M. Vinson, Surgeon-General Norman T. Kirk, Attorney-General Tom Clark and Vice-Admiral Ross T. McIntyre, surgeon-general of the Navy. 12-12-45

Vinson's appointment was a new one, the others reappointments. Vinson replaces Daniel Bell, retiring under-secretary of the Treasury.

During the drive, Mrs. Van Jackson reported that many of the school which appeared in The Constitution, now totaling \$2,500.



# Network Broadcast Honors

ATLANTA DAILY WORLD

9-28-45

## Children's Home Founder

Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Sarah Murphy

Is Chosen "Good

Neighbor" Of Week

BY J. RICHARDSON JONES

"Breakfast In Hollywood," a radio show broadcast from California, with laughable Tom Breneman an emcee, stretched its 'Good Neighbor' hand across the nation this week to honor Mrs. Sarah Murphy, of Polk County, Georgia, for her service in salvaging the lives of 48 little boys and girls in her Sarah Devenure Murphy Home near Rockmart.

Daily at 10 a. m. the broadcast originates over the American Broadcasting Company (WAGA in Atlanta) and is heard from coast-to-coast.

One of the features on the program is the recognition of a "good neighbor" for the day, paying tribute to the person so honored with an orchid, air-mailed from sunny California. The good neighbor is selected from among the hundreds of letters received each week, in which interested friends nominate a neighbor in their city for the coveted orchid. Once a year the list of winners is compiled, and the most outstanding "good neighbor" is awarded a \$1,000.00 prize.

### UNBIASED SELECTIONS

Proof of the fact that the selections are unbiased and that winners are recognized, irrespective of race, creed or color, was demonstrated this week when Mrs. Sarah Murphy was honored from coast-to-coast by Tom Breneman.

Daughter of an ex-slave, this graying, humble woman sat smiling and silent Wednesday in the studios of WAGA and listened to the "Good Neighbor" letter, written by Mrs. Rufus Campbell (white) of Rockmart, Georgia, as it was read by Mr. Breneman.

In nominating Mrs. Murphy, the Rockmart matron pointed out the contribution the former is making to the field of service for her race and from among the hundreds of nominees Mrs. Murphy was selected. Breneman's "Uncle Corny" was entrusted with the task of rushing the coveted orchid air-mail as soon as the program was over.

Years of unselfish toil, prayers, and countless sacrifices have been

poured into the Sarah Devenure Murphy Home for Negro Children, and is a good example of what can be done in directing the lives of little children, many of whom will face this post-war world with faltering steps.

### HAVEN FOR 48

The home, as Mrs. Murphy puts it, "is just a shanty" but it has been a haven for 48 children since it was founded, and has given three men to the armed forces. In fact, there was no such thing as a formal founding; the home "just grew" when Mrs. Murphy found herself with six motherless children on her hands at her mother's death.

She and her husband took them in to care for them on their meager earnings because that was what "God wanted me to do," Mrs. Murphy stated. Other children came into the home from all over North Georgia (one from Atlanta) and soon, without realizing it, Mrs. Murphy had founded an institution. This despite the fact she had been teaching steadily at the little two-teacher county school since 1919. To her it seemed as if all this constituted a part of her teaching duties, and, though childless herself, welcomed the opportunity to "mother" this unfortunate little brood.

Land where the present "home" stands (a one-acre tract was purchased by the Murphys in 1924. In 1944, a sister-in-law, Ms. Ollie Ballard, gave the "home" another one-acre tract. The "institution" has three buildings—the Murphy home, a "dormitory" for the girls, and, as Mrs. Murphy describes it, "a shanty for the 23 boys.

### NEED LARGER QUARTERS

It is needless to emphasize the necessity of large quarters for the residents of the Sarah Devenure Murphy Home, and it is the hope of this writer that by virtue of the publicity gained through this network broadcast, sufficient funds will be donated to enable the founder to make this a real haven. The children then can be prepared for more worthwhile service in life than maids and cooks, the extent of their present curriculum, according to Mrs. Campbell's letter.

Mrs. Murphy is a firm believer in prayer and undoubtedly leans very heavily on the arm of God as is evidenced in her interview with the writer. She has been very

thrifty, too, and recently paid a cash sum of \$1,1784.00 on an 80-acre farm costing \$1,900.00. In showing her receipt, she insisted God will help her raise the \$116.00 balance. I believe He will. Such service will not go un-noticed by the Deity, this writer believes, nor unrewarded, and soon we may see those three Murphy-described "shantys" replaced by modern, well-equipped brick buildings. The eleven rooms, housing 48 children, Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, and their "daughter," Miss Louella Johnson Cooper, are must too inadequate, and it is possible that, as Mrs. Murphy puts it, "God moves in mysterious ways his wonders to perform" and through this "good neighbor" recognition may come the realization of her dreams. Mrs. Murphy punctuated her remarks with constant references to "dreams and visions," of "heavenly revelations," and "directions from God." Who are we to doubt her? Certainly not I! 9-28-45

### HOME NAMED FOR CHILD

Mrs. Murphy's "daughter" (brought up in the "home")—Louella Johnson Cooper—completed her studies at Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, the orchid winner informed, in 1944, and returned to the home-place to take over the duties of teacher in the County School and to aid in directing the activities of the Sarah Devenure Murphy home, named for Mrs. Murphy's deceased child.

Donations from interested friends all over North Georgia, and the revenue from farm-made commodities furnish the treasury for the annual budget, a budget much greater than the treasury, but Sarah Murphy still believes "God will show me a way."

A sister, Mrs. Leila McClendon, lives at 988 Beckwith Street, Atlanta. 9-28-45

During the broadcast when Mrs. Murphy was honored, a Mrs. Birdie Smith, white, of Rockmart, now residing in Hollywood, was in Tom Breneman's Restaurant, where the broadcast originates, and took the greatest pride in announcing to Tom Breneman the fact she was from "Gawgia."

Following Wednesday's broadcast, Mrs. Murphy was guest of the Atlanta Daily World, being shown a portion of the city and having dinner and rest at the homes of Mrs. W. A. Scott, Sr.



JUN 6 - 1945

## Negroes Ask Voice In Central Planning Body Proposed Here

A central community planning board made up of representatives of organizations interested in planning for the future of Charleston was advocated at the final session of the social welfare conference held yesterday afternoon at the U. S. O. in George street.

At an open forum, representatives of negro social organizations requested that their race be given representation on such a board. Specific problems cited by the negroes involved the need for greater educational facilities and places of recreation for negro youth.

Robert F. Morrison, president of the negro Young Men's Christian association, read a letter received yesterday from the city school superintendent, in answer to a request made by a group of negroes that Burke Industrial school be made an accredited high school.

The letter reiterated a previous resolution passed by the city board that due to lack of facilities, the board must refuse the request.

The Y. M. C. A. president appealed to the group to assist in getting better educational facilities. About 40 per cent of the population of Charleston is made up of negroes, he said.

"There should be negroes on this planning committee. White people cannot represent them . . . They do what they say is good for the negro race," he asserted.

Morrison said that he owned a lot on Hanover street, which he has offered to the city council to develop a negro playground. The city refused it, he said, ascribing their refusal to the opposition of a small minority of white people who live on Cannon street. The population in that section, he pointed out, is very largely negro. There are 2,000 negro school pupils in that area with no place to play, he said.

Marion Johnson, field executive for Boy Scouts, said that negroes are beginning to take "a defeatist attitude". He spoke of the recreational need of negro youth, especially parks and playgrounds.

"If we can't give them playgrounds now, then let's do the next best thing. Why not now and then rope off a street and let them get together to have some fun, properly supervised? They need to feel that something is being done to meet their needs," he said.

Other negroes, representing social welfare organizations, asked for

suggestions from the white group as to how they can best approach their problems.

A. L. Geisenheimer, presiding, explained that the Charleston council was an advisory body only, but he said that individual members can use their influence.

A member of the council, Mrs. Harry M. Rubin, declared that in solving this and other problems, the cooperation of the city school board, the county delegation and the city council is essential . . . "Actually, we have to start in the primaries", she said. This statement was greeted with applause from the group.

Mrs. A. C. Corcoran, a member of the North Charleston U. S. O. council, broached the question of whether more Community Chest funds are available for use in North Charleston and the northern section of the city. Stephen Nelson, Community Chest director, explained that funds in excess of the amount already allocated to agencies are available to agencies that can show a real need.

The session yesterday afternoon closed a one-day conference, which started Monday night at the Baruch Memorial auditorium.

Speakers were C. Bissell Jenkins, Jr., president of the Charleston Community and War Chest, and Henry P. Staats, technical consultant of the civic services committee, Carolina Art association.

Presented by Mr. Geisenheimer, Mr. Jenkins cited the four major agencies now involved in city planning—the Community Chest, the Charleston Welfare council, the civic services committee and the post-war planning committee of the Charleston chamber of commerce.

"Only through cooperation can we realize the progressive Charleston for which we are all working," he said, recommending that these agencies together with related organizations establish a central planning board.

Using parkway designs to demonstrate the planning of the civic services committee, Mr. Staats explained the plan now advocated by the committee of establishing parking areas just back of the stores in King street, from Calhoun to Queen street.

"This plan," he said, "contemplates parking meters in the area to prevent congestion and to provide some revenue . . . It should be a municipal plan and should be carried out in the entire area at the same time."

Such a plan, tried in other cities, prevents slum areas from increasing, eliminates present slums, improves health conditions and eliminates fire hazards.

Problems which lie ahead in planning for Charleston according to Mr. Staats, are war memorials; additional slum clearance or rehousing; parks, playgrounds and boulevards; and health, welfare and recreational needs of returning veterans.

The morning sessions were devoted to a discussion of social welfare from the professional and

## Social Welfare Conference

## Social Conditions

volunteers workers point of view. Special needs cited included adequate facilities, especially hospitalization for non-residents; better child care, particularly foster homes and day nurseries; a juvenile court; more clinics, especially for psychiatric studies; a better school visiting nurse service; a legal aid society, and homes for the chronic ill and the aged blind.

Speakers included Mrs. Lucille Fouche, personal assistant, Charleston navy yard; J. Rucker Newbery, Boy Scout executive; Dr. Leon Banov, county health officer; Rebecca E. Davis, director of the Fraser field U. S. O. club; Miss Caroline Gillespie, president of the Professional Workers' association, presided at the professional workers session, and Mrs. Rubin, the session on volunteer work.



## It Happened In Atlanta

How the milk of human understanding and kindness saved the life of an Atlanta Negro peanut vender, is the subject of an intriguing and inspiring story, told in the May number of Survey magazine by Miss Nancy Johnston, Director of Social Service at Atlanta's Grady hospital.

The case is that of Hamp Parks, 65 year old, ancient gray-haired Negro, who, along with scores of other vendors, was forced to give up business at the corner of Butler Street and Auburn Avenue, because of an ordinance forbidding stationary vendors in any section of the city. 6-28-45

Hamp Parks is a familiar and popular figure of the thousands who pass in and out of the Yates and Milton Drugstore and to the motormen at the Butler Street Barn. Hamp Park's plight and crucial experience is told in dialect form. The story depicts how this distressed yet kindly gentleman was directed to her office by his physician; how with child-like faith in her power to save his business and prevent starvation, and how the "heat, long-hour, little food, soon sent Parks home dangerously ill."

Following a thorough yet sympathetic study of the facts, Miss Johnston's reports the chart to say: "police-men overzealous in pursuit of duty." She points out that she had grown gray, attempting to interpret the "social component of medicine" to busy doctors. But that the story she told was "now effective" and real "indignation" was aroused. 6-28-45

The advice of a Grady's interne to Miss Johnston that if "something was not done to stop Hamp Parks' walking from morning to midnight," was followed by a suggestion of a staff physician that she write a member of City Council, who became so impressed with her letter, that he phoned this message: *Atlanta, Ga.*

"Tell that old peanut vender he can sell on every 'd - - - corned in this man's town. If anyone says anything to him, tell him to come to me."

Miss Johnston's story is an inspiring adventure into the unexplored field of scientific social case work. It is also a vivid and realistic interpretation of the law's failure to deal impartially with Negroes and whites alike.

the council again.

The women would be used, Mr. Paschal said, to assist Negro children across the street to their schools and after school houses

turned to work.

"The problem must be solved now," Mr. Paschal said, "and I believe this is a solution."

When the question of jurisdiction was brought up, Mr. Paschal said that the women would be under the direct supervision of the school board.

"These women would do a most necessary and good job with delinquent Negro children," Councilman Paschal said. "I feel that they would be a definite asset."

However, Mr. Paschal said that due to council's apparent opposition, he would now try to obtain older men or white women to do the job.

## NEGRO TRUANT MATRONS

Councilman Paschal has recommended to council that two Negro women be employed as truant matrons to be used by the city school board in protecting the children around the Negro schools, and in tracing truants.

This seems to THE STATE a good idea and we trust council will act favorably on the proposal.

*The Call*  
*Kansas City, Mo.*  
**ANOTHER FIRST**—First Negro woman probation officer in Wyandotte county is Mrs. Evelyn Searcy, 1200 Washington Blvd., Kansas City, Kas., who was recently appointed to this important post. A graduate of the University of Kansas, with a major in social service, Mrs. Searcy was a caseworker in Leavenworth county for seven years. Her new position is in the office of Judge Clarke E. Tucker. 10-14-45



Columbia, S. C. Record

## Paschal Suggests

# Hiring Of Negro Women Truant Officers Urged

Councilman Gary Paschal this morning suggested to Mayor Fred D. Marshall and members of city council that two Negro women, to be used as truant matrons by the school board, be employed by the city of Columbia.

Council took no action on the matter today, deciding it would be held for later discussion, but Mr. Paschal said he took that as a refusal and would bring it before

would serve, under the supervision of the school board, as truant workers.

Mr. Paschal said that he had discussed the plan with Police Chief L. J. Campbell and that it met with

the chief's approval. The councilman said further that only two

of the women employed last year by the city police department to aid in the traffic problem had re-

turned to work.



**GOOD NEIGHBOR IN HARLEM**

*new York Times*  
For forty years, since its establishment in 1905, Federation Settlement has been playing the part of good neighbor in East Harlem. Now with a significant broadening of aims and service it is changing its name to the Good Neighbor Federation, becoming completely non-sectarian in membership and policy (it was formerly affiliated with the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies), and laying down a new program, analytical and intercultural, to meet the problems of group conflict and tension. It is only necessary to walk through the streets of the area served by "the Fed," as it is affectionately known, to perceive its problems. Portuguese, Spanish, Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Italians, Hungarians, Russians, Irish, Poles, Greeks and others attempt to struggle upward in this dismal section. They are of many religions, Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Greek Orthodox and Mohammedan.

*new York, N.Y.*  
Good Neighbor Federation tackles this problem with stout faith and cheerful courage. Its five-story building at 115 East 106th Street is a hive of activity day and night. Children receive lunches to bolster meager and unbalanced home diets, and work in carpentry, painting, pottery, sewing, food marketing and cooking. They sing and dance and have dramatic activities. A doctor and a nurse give physical examinations and advice. There are lively discussion groups at night. In a new project a psychological and sociological analysis will be made of every case of racial and group conflict in the neighborhood, to determine causes of tensions. It is a case of learning to live together. The Good Neighbor Federation promotes this patiently and skillfully. It seeks \$85,000 in a campaign just beginning, of which \$30,000 will be used for needed rehabilitation of its building. This is one way to do something useful and at once to help better conditions in Harlem, which are a constant reproach to all of us. *11-19-45*



# Winston-Salem To Have Trained Tuberculosis Worker In Schools

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—Mrs. Marietta Mason began work with the Forsyth County Tuberculosis Association on Oct. 5 as education-al and social worker among the Negro population of Forsyth county and Winston-Salem. Her office is in the branch YWCA on East Sixth street.

Mrs. Mason, a local woman, is a graduate of Teachers College, here.

She has had five years of teaching experience and has completed her residence work for the master's degree at the Atlanta University school of social work. While in Atlanta she had four months of field experience with the Atlanta Tuberculosis Association.

The work of this education leader will be largely in Negro schools. She will also undertake some rehabilitation work with Negro patients at the Forsyth County Tuberculosis Sanatorium, will help with the sale of Christmas Seals, and will speak at meetings of various adult groups, while working with the Negro Home and Welfare Association.

## HEALTH PROGRAM

The Winston-Salem and Forsyth County Health Education program recently served as an illustration for classes at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and at the North Carolina College, Durham. Miss Maribelle Guin, instructor in health education at the University of North Carolina, formerly with the City-County Health Department in Winston-Salem, presented the health set-up here as a model for lectures on urban community health education at both schools.

## NIGHT SCHOOLS

High school academic courses are being included in the city schools night classes for adults for the first time because of the special needs of veterans. H. R. Borthwick, chairman of the training committee of the Veterans' Service Council, pointed out recently.

Registration for the classes was held on Oct. 16 at 7 p. m. at Reynolds and Atkins High Schools.

High school credit will be awarded on completion of work meeting the required standards. All high school courses required for graduation, as well as some electives, will be available to any group of ten persons. Special vocational and high school business subjects will be included in the curriculum as for the past few years.

Directing the program is P. B. Raiford, city schools vocational head.

## ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

Twenty-five Carver High School students were winners in the state-wide essay contest co-sponsored by the National and State Tuberculosis Associations and affiliates for the best essays on subjects concerning tuberculosis, according to

L. L. Miller, executive secretary of the state association.

The Carver students won third prize in the high school class division. Prizes ranging from \$1,500 are awarded by the National Association while the State Association offers prizes amounting to \$100, the report points out.

Winners in the 1945 national contest include three North Carolina students.

## HOSPITAL COMMITTEE

The Negro Hospital Advisory Committee has recommended changes in the operation of Kate Bitting Reynolds Memorial Hospital and also has requested clarification of its status as a committee.

The advisory group made the following recommendations to the City Hospital Commission at a joint meeting at City Hall:

1. That the hospital administration advise the committee of hospital problems;

2. That Negro internes be given in writing a statement as to what is expected of them and the opportunities for training and advancement.

3. That the hospital place Negro physicians on its staff;

4. That the administration employ Negro personnel, including a superintendent.

Members of the Negro hospital advisory committee include: O. A. Brown, chairman; Drs. J. D. Quick, A. H. Ray, and J. C. Jordan Jr.; Jack Atkins, H. V. Price, Claude Brown, R. S. Hairston, and D. W. Andrews.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Dr. R. L. Carlton, city-county health office, has reported that the combined health department is functioning reasonably well.

In reviewing vital statistics for the quarter just ending, Dr. Carlton reported that 620 birth certificates were filed in Winston-Salem and 86 in Forsyth county, a

total of 706, 515 white and 191 Negro. Physicians attended 701 of these births. Fourteen babies were

born dead.

During the same period 208 persons died, 197 in the city and 33 in the country. Heart disease

heads the list of causes of death with 66 victims, and cerebral hemorrhages came second with 46

deaths. Seven automobile accidents were fatal. Tuberculosis

deaths numbered 15, four white and 11 Negro. This is almost the same as the figure for the corresponding period during the past

two years.



80b-1945

Virginia Social work

Dr. Lancaster Cites  
Richmond, Va.  
Dear, Blind School Need

Times Dispatch

The need for schooling for 400  
Negro deaf and blind boys in Vir-  
ginia was cited yesterday in the  
quarterly report of the Virginia  
State School for Colored Deaf  
and Blind Children at Hampton,  
released by Dr. Dabney S. Lan-  
caster, Superintendent of Public  
Instruction. 11-14-45

The school has facilities for 119  
pupils. Dr. Lancaster said plans  
have been drafted for a new  
building, but construction diffi-  
culties have prevented a start.



# Does Dixie Look North for Salvation?

*The Richmond Times-Dispatch*  
An Editorial from the Columbia, S. C., Record

GEORGE C. BIGGERS, vice-president and general manager of The Atlanta Journal and immediate past president of the Southern Newspaper Publishers' Association, did some straight-talking to the Southern Governors' Conference at New Orleans last week.

It was a most unpolitic speech. Mr. Biggers asked the Governors the bald, blunt question whether they were really leading the fight for the things we need here in the South or merely sitting around the capitol "figuring out how to be elected Governor again or when you shall make the race for the Senate?"

But Mr. Biggers didn't stop with politicians. For the trouble with the South is not entirely political.

"The truth is," he said, "that as a region, as a section, we are more or less sitting with our hands folded, complacently waiting for the damn Yankee to come down here and build factories and open new businesses instead of doing the job ourselves. Look around your own home town, your own home State, and tab up mentally how much venture capital could be got together to start a brand-new manufacturing plant, admitting you have capable management at hand."

"Now are we going to balance our economy between industry and agriculture, waiting for Northerners to come in here and do it for us? 12-18-45

The South should pay more attention to the development of its own industries; to the investment of its own capital. Time was when Charleston capital developed not only a great part of South Carolina, but as far-away places as Birmingham. The South need not be a colonial economy indefinitely. It has the capital now to remake itself and quit worrying about attracting somebody else in to syphon off the profits.

But whether the development of the South be done by local capital or by outside money, there are, Mr. Biggers said, some things in every State that need to be done to put the State's house in order to attract new industry.

"Due to the war industries brought in here recently, we have more skilled and semiskilled workers in the South than ever before. They're not going back to the farms. How are we to furnish them employment? 12-18-45

Many Southern cities are bestirring themselves, trying to induce new manufacturing plants to come into their localities. . . . Southern States are active also,

trying to do something about balancing industry with agriculture." Nearly every Southern State wants new industries, but, Mr. Biggers said, it also wants other things—new roads, better hospitals, increased services of government, old-age security and so forth. And all these things cost money, mean more taxes.

"But I would like to raise one still, small voice in protest," Mr. Biggers said, "against the present tendency of government officials seeking to increase tax revenues by the simple expediency of rigging up some scheme to sock the utilities, the big corporations, business of any kind and the high salary brackets and eliminate or reduce taxes for all firms and individuals under certain incomes. Too many such gadgets have been rigged already for vote-catching purposes, and they inevitably contribute to the popular misconception that the government—all government—is meant to support the people instead of the people supporting the government."

"If we are going to get industry into the South in order to balance our economy, we must make it attractive to business to come here. It should be able to flourish in a favorable environment. And I am not talking about any tax exemption or of lower wages in the South as contrasted to the North, nor of doing anything except giving the honorable and fair treatment that any business is entitled to receive whether it be local capital or foreign capital."

And there was a lot of sound, common sense in what Mr. Biggers had to tell the Governors. Very little of it was new and most of it had been said before. Maybe most of the Governors had heard it before, but it needs retelling and retelling.



80b-1945

# There's Progress in the Southland

By C. C. SPAULDING  
President, N.C. Mutual Life  
Insurance Co.

It is pointless for the South to gloat over strikes in Detroit and Philadelphia and say "It hasn't happened here." If the South had the congestion and competition present in Detroit and Philadelphia worse conditions might occur.

It is equally pointless for the North to deride the entire South when a lynching occurs. Whites and blacks, in the North and South, are disrespectful of laws except in their own hands, and it is against such people that law-abiding citizens should unite.

Here lies the justification for an anti-lynching bill. It is my opinion that such should be supported by Southern as well as Northern Congressmen.

**Improvements in South**  
Definite improvements in Southern attitudes may be noted; to wit: the equalization of salaries of teachers in North Carolina based on certificates and experiences.

It is very hopeful when the chief of police in a major city in North Carolina disciplines and ultimately discharges a white officer because, in training, he could not bend enough to endure the presence of a fellow officer of darker hue.

There is still much to be done, but I do not hesitate to say that I am thankful for the progress that is being made.

Pianists use both the white and black keys to play "The Star Spangled Banner." To exclude either results in a discord which is completely out of harmony.

South

## Two Encouraging Moves

Louisiana Weekly  
New Orleans La.  
1-13-45

INDICATIONS that the South intends to improve conditions for the general welfare of its people, both white and black, were in evidence at two meetings recently in the deep South, the Governors' meeting in Biloxi and the newspapermen and writers' informal interracial meeting in Atlanta, Ga. The Governors of the Southern states finally came to the realization that something must be done, and quickly, about providing adequate and equal educational facilities for all citizens of the South. They also gave earnest consideration to the proposal that Southern states offer exchange scholarships for outstanding Negro students to attend outstanding Negro universities in other states. The statement, "I believe it is the only hope of America to have equal opportunity for all; I believe that all the people of this nation should be given equal opportunities, whether he be white or black," by one of its members being given the most prominent space and widespread publicity in the press of the South, as in a manner stating the conference creed, indicates a splendid and a challenging new trend for the South.

The other meeting in Atlanta devoted most of its attention to ways of enfranchising millions of white and black citizens who are disfranchised via the poll tax, registration and other methods. It was an informal interracial meeting of newspapermen and writers of the South who came together in a way that promises to lead the way for the South to solve many of her problems by placing them right on the table for a full and frank interchange of ideas before the interracial groups concerned.

These two meetings show that the decent and respectable people of the South are at last willing to assert themselves to stem the poison and hatred the politicians and demagogues have spread and preached so many years that has caused the South to lag behind the rest of the nation economically, educationally and culturally. It shows that these "new" Southerners are not afraid of the jibes or taunts of politicians and demagogues who do not want to see the poor whites and Negroes vote or be educated. These Southerners are standing up on their two feet for the principles of fair play and justice that they believe. Evidently they are tired of being pushed around by power-loving politicians and race-hating demagogues. They want the South to assume its rightful position economically, culturally and educationally with other sections of the nation. They want to throw off the shackles of ignorance and prejudice so that the South can progress in accordance with its ability and resources. God speed their plans and efforts.

# Governors Plan To Industrialize South

Atlanta World - Ga.  
1-17-45

WASHINGTON — (ANP)— Industrialization of the south, changing this huge section of our country from an agricultural to an industrial region to compete with the east and north is the plan of the Southern Conference of Governors, as expressed at its recent meeting.

It was pointed out that with all of the industrial plants built in the south to meet the war emergency, the south is thus equipped for a heavy reconversion following the war, manufacturing and producing items now strictly confined to other areas.

As the governor of Mississippi said, "Human resources are adequate and to spare. Southern states enjoy the highest birth rate in the nation. Here live 35,000,000 people, 26 percent of the nation's human wealth." Also in the south live about three fourths of the entire Negro population of the United States or approximately 9,000,000 souls.

## 4,000,000 FARMERS

Of this number, some 4,000,000 are estimated agricultural workers or live on farms. This remaining 5,000,000 are urban residents, or live in smaller towns throughout the south.

Their work is chiefly domestic. sawmill work, steel work around Birmingham, where they also work in mines, ship yards, stevedoring around wharves and general unskilled labor. Few skilled laborers are among this vast army, and those few who have been fortunate in obtaining the higher types of work, gradually are being pushed out, as in the sawmill industry, where for years Negroes have held skilled jobs. Recently, they are being gradually replaced with workers.

While all of this planning is going ahead, no one has mentioned what will be done with the Negro workers.

The governor of Mississippi continued his remarks saying, "For example, in the decade ended in 1940, Mississippi alone lost 14,000 of her best young men and women to industrial areas." Again, this did not include Negroes who migrated from the state to better their economic opportunities and to find work commensurate with their talents.

Technically trained Southerners by hundreds of thousands will return to their homes after the war," the governor continued, "bringing with them new knowledge and new skills learned in the war plants of the nation."

## MANY SOUTHERN SOLDIERS

With the exception of the Pacific coast there is probably no region in the United States in which the impact of war on the economy has been greater and where the post war repercussion will last longer than in the southern states, says one authority. This writer further states that the south has contributed 2,800,000 soldiers to the armed services; it has lost approximately 1,300,000 men and women through migration to war production centers in other parts of the country, and, therefore in spite of a natural increase in population of around 2,400,000, the southern states have today a civilian population approximately 1,600,000 smaller than on the last official census date, April 1, 1940.

As a result of the war industries that have engulfed the south, thousands of former farm workers have become skilled workers and at war's end, will be reluctant to return to the low wages formerly received; millions of acres of land have been transferred to the production of new crops for war needs which may not be returned to their former status; the war has spectacularly raised the incomes of actual or potential standard of living of large groups of the southern population, some of whom had lived in the past on little more than a subsistence basis. These people have acquired new wants and given work at good wages, increasing for the time, the buying power of the mass of people.

The south's bid for industrial power is not merely a problem of area to capture the will-o-wisp they are chasing in their early post-war plans. The south's bid for industrial power is a magnificent one, which the south will have to win on a basis which will give the Negro more consideration in the past. Housing for the millions of poorly housed will be another problem facing the south in its bid for industrial supremacy. Housing not only for the whites who will remain in the industrial centers, but housing for the Negroes as well who also will refuse to return to their former low estate.

## BANKS PROSPER

Negro banks throughout the nation, the majority of them in the south, have enjoyed untold prosperity. And what and where will it be used is the question.

Housing for the millions of poorly housed will be another problem facing the south in its bid for industrial supremacy. Housing not only for the whites who will remain in the industrial centers, but housing for the Negroes as well who also will refuse to return to their former low estate.

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# The South's Great Postwar Future

By Jimmy Jones, director University of Georgia News Bureau  
5-13-45

ATHENS, Ga.—Paul W. Chapman, dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Georgia, is author of an article appearing in the March issue of the magazine, Sales Management, published in New York, in which he foresees vast postwar marketing expansion in the South.

Recently Dean Chapman was informed that several thousand copies of the article had been reprinted by the Progressive Farmer, Birmingham, Ala., and Radio Station WSB in Atlanta. These will be distributed to advertising agencies, magazines, newspapers and manufacturers interested in postwar marketing prospects below the Mason-Dixon line.

In the article entitled, "New Marketing Opportunities I see Developing in the South," Dean Chapman outlines 10 reasons why he thinks the South will lead the nation in the postwar upsurge to business, agricultural and industrial prosperity. They are:

1. More paved roads.
2. More airports and planes.
3. More rural electrification.
4. More refrigeration.
5. Increased use of power and machinery.
6. Increased need for farm buildings and equipment.
7. Larger farms.
8. Livestock expansion.
9. Marketing supplies and equipment.
10. Small industry equipment.

Basing his conclusions on a recent statistical analysis of Southern agriculture and industry, Dean Chapman observed that "the trends in farming and rural life in the South are very marked."

"The back of the old-time, one-crop, tenant-sharecropper system of farming has been broken," he writes. "Progress has been very great during the past 10 years. It will go forward much more rapidly in the future. With anything like full-scale employment in the United States as a whole, the rate of economic advancement (in the South) will be phenomenal, even under adverse business conditions . . ."

Also noting a consciousness of planning for postwar tourist business in the South, Dean Chapman predicted:

"Within 10 years we shall have a complete network of tourist highways in the South—even to remote localities. The majority of farmers, also, will live on all-weather, farm-to-market roads . . . Southerners know that their wartime prosperity (greater than any other region in relation to prewar) has been due in no small measure to wartime visitors such as servicemen and their families. They will go after tourist business after the war more energetically than

ever before . . . highway building, curtailed by the war, will be accelerated and materials for construction and related projects will be sold, providing more hotels and tourist attractions and facilitating farm marketing, thereby lowering the cost of selling farm produce."

Dean Chapman also predicts a tremendous upswing in livestock production in the South, pointing out that the South has about 50 per cent of the farmers in the nation and 25 per cent of the livestock. "This means there must be an upward adjustment in livestock. There will also be a great increase in soil-conserving crops and a proportionate need for livestock to consume these crops."

As to potential Southern purchasing power, Chapman cited the fact that the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta has issued more new money in relation to previous issues than any bank in the entire Federal Reserve System since 1940 and the Federal Reserve Bank at Richmond stood second with Dallas beating out San Francisco for third place in the nation, thus giving the South a decided edge in new money in circulation.

The Georgia agricultural expert listed the following industries as leading the way to a record era of Southern marketing expansion and general economic prosperity following the war:

Box factories, handle factories, post treating plants, mill-work plants, excelsior plants, naval stores, grist mills, paper mills, rayon plants, seafood canneries, feed mills, glass factories, potteries, hatcheries, brickyards, cement-block plants, quarries, rug making, farm tool plants and tanneries.

## Race Problem Is Economic, Not Social, Arnall Declares

The race question in the south is an economic problem rather than a social case, according to an article written by Gov. Ellis Arnall in the current issue of Collier's magazine in which he denounced lazy southern government, the poll tax and political demagogues who arouse racial hatreds.

In naming poverty as the number one cause of the south's current ills, Gov. Arnall compared the average American annual income at the time of Pearl Harbor, \$604, with the south's average of \$314.

Noting that the average Negro's income was even lower, he suggested paying the Negro good wages for his work, giving him the opportunity to demonstrate his own capacity to learn, work and earn, and giving him his constitutional rights.

"Once the south becomes genuinely prosperous, so that there is economic opportunity for every citizen, white or black," Arnall said, "the two races will live on friendly terms."

The governor termed Eugene Talmadge a "dictator" and "more than anything else, a rabble-rouser," and declared that "the south has at times given the rest of the country reason to think of some of her governors as clowns and of some of her legislatures as dominated by charlatans and scoundrels."

He reminded his readers that the Georgia legislature took dictatorial powers from the governor, killed the pardon racket, reformed the prison system and gave suffrage to citizens of 18 within the first 24 days of his administration.

"We do not ask for industrial development at the expense of any other section of the country," he concluded, " . . . but with the elimination of unfair and discriminatory freight rates, certain industries will inevitably come to the south—woolens, wood pulp, ceramics, plastics and metallurgy."

## Richmond Times Dispatch Toward a Greater South

SOUTHERN institutions and agencies are coming to stress more and more the importance of research to this region, the latest to do so being the University of Chattanooga, which has just launched its Industrial Research Institute.

As an important feature of the opening, the university brought together for the first time the directors of the region's principal research laboratories—such as the Southern Research Institute at Birmingham; the University of Louisville's Industrial Research Institute, the Auburn Research Council, and so on.

The event is significant, just as the emphasis on research at the University of North Carolina's sesquicentennial Conference on Research and Regional Welfare last Spring was significant. This section of the United States is awakening to its potentialities. It is far from realizing them fully, but it is on the way toward the goal.

Agricultural and industrial research of the highest type can provide many new products and new forms of employment for the South. This region is becoming aware of the far-reaching importance of the laboratory in the building of a great civilization. We live in an age of techniques, an age of industrial and agricultural know-how. It is, as we are now being informed almost ad nauseam, "the atomic age."

But although we may grow tired of hearing about the atomic bomb and atomic energy, they are the most colossal facts to swim across the ken of human beings in centuries. They have within them the potentialities for revolutionizing our entire way of life, or of destroying our civilization. When atomic energy is harnessed, the South must have a part in harnessing it. When other great inventions are made, the South must benefit from them and help to develop them. The more this section, so rich in resources, learns to use those resources, the sooner it will realize the great destiny which many non-Southerners have forecast for it. The new institute at the University of Chattanooga is part of a trend which should go far to create a greater South.



80c-1945

# Southern liberals get northern co-operation

P. M.

1945

GEORGIA'S REPEAL of the poll tax last month got us wondering about the strength of liberal forces in the South and so we were glad last week when we had a chance to talk with Dr. Clark H. Foreman. He is one of the South's leading progressives and he is president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

Dr. Foreman had come to the Conference's New York office, in the Murray Hill Hotel, to help arrange for the dinner the Conference is giving March 6th, at the Commodore, in honor of Eleanor Roosevelt.

He is 48, graying at the temples, but youthful looking. His speech was something new to our ears—he had a Southern accent, all right, but he spoke rapidly, not with the drawl we expected to go with the accent.

"Most of the people of the South are liberals," he said. We looked astonished. Why certainly, Dr. Foreman said. Roosevelt is a tremendous hero in the South—he's not stronger anywhere else in the country. And, he went on, that's not simply because Roosevelt is a Democrat; it's also because of the New Deal program.

The trouble is, according to Dr. Foreman, that the essential liberalism of the South has been confused by race prejudice. "Take any economic issue which cannot be confused by race prejudice," he said, "and the people of the South will be on the right side. Southerners support almost solidly public housing, TVA and similar programs." And the South, he asserted, was the most internationally-minded section of the U. S. A.

Both of Dr. Foreman's grandfathers fought for the Confederacy, and one of them, Evan P. Howell, was owner and editor of the Atlanta Constitution. Dr. Foreman himself is secretary of the National Citizen's PAC.

Dr. Foreman said that artistic and intellectual movements in the South were led by liberals—Lillian Smith, Erskine Caldwell, Miriam Hopkins, Mary Martin. "People tend to forget they are Southerners," he remarked.

We asked how about Margaret Mitchell, author of *Gone With the Wind*. "Not an intellectual," he said, dismissing her with a wave of his hand.

Turning to the labor movement in the South, he told us the growth of the CIO there had been phenomenal. He said the growth of the CIO was the most significant political factor in the South today because, for the first time, it put the fight against race prejudice on a dollar-and-cents basis. And race prejudice, he added, was based on economics.

## Banishing filibusterers

Next to the CIO movement, the fight

## Southern Conference on Human Welfare

against the poll tax is the most hopeful sign in the South, Dr. Foreman believes. There's an excellent chance that Alabama will repeal its tax when the Legislature meets in May, Dr. Foreman thinks, and he believes the chances good for passage of a Federal anti-poll tax bill this year.

"Every time a state does away with the poll tax, it removes two Senators from the ranks of the filibusterers," he pointed out. We asked Dr. Foreman about opposition to the liberal movement in the South. He produced a yellow-covered booklet. "You can write about this, but please don't print the name of the organization that put it out," he said.

We copied the organization's program off the cover:

"... proposes the formation of a Gentile Political Party Block to combat the Jew and Negro Racial Blocks now active in the political affairs of the Nation."

Why didn't Dr. Foreman want the name of the organization mentioned?

"People up here will send them money," he said. "They'll have a lot easier time raising money in the North than we will."

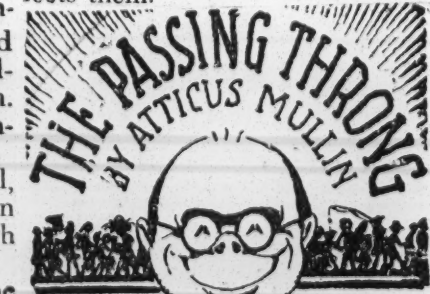
## A northern awakening

The provincial attitude of Northerners—particularly of New Yorkers—toward the South, upsets Dr. Foreman.

"They don't realize," he said, "that the South holds one-third of the population of the United States, and that more Southerners than men from any other section of the country head important Congressional committees."

Northern liberals, according to Dr. Foreman, have been inclined to say, "Don't bother us about the South, we have our own headaches." What they don't realize, he insists, is that problems of the South are national problems.

"That's why this March 6th dinner is so gratifying," Dr. Foreman said. "It's being run by a committee of Northerners, headed by Dorothy Parker. It means that Northern liberals are beginning to realize that what happens in the South vitally affects them."



Montgomery Advertiser

(Any opinions and observations in this column are those of the writer and are not intended to represent those of The Advertiser).

Montgomery A12.

FROM Washington has come a copy of an invitation to attend the presentation of the

Thomas Jefferson award to Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black which will be held in the dining room of the Hotel Statler at seven in the evening of April 3.

The dinner is gotten up by the Southern Conference of Human Welfare. 3-26-44

The Southern Conference of Human Welfare is the same organization which tried to make Birmingham "take" the New Deal ideas on the amalgamation of the races at a conference there some years ago in which the Birmingham city auditorium was to be used. There was to be no segregation of the races in spite of a Birmingham city ordinance. In spite of Mrs. Roosevelt, who was there, the Birmingham City Commission stepped in and enforced the ordinance which probably saved a disastrous race riot.

It develops that among the "patronesses" of the Justice Black event are a number of negro women. They will sit down at the dinner table and dine with this former Alabama United States Senator and extol him for his court decisions wherein he has broken down the age-old traditions of the South. The thick-headed Senator from Kentucky, Alben Barkley, will be toastmaster and no doubt he will shiningly extol the negro women who may be upon the toastmaster's list to be recognized.

It all goes to show what a man can do who gets to Washington from the hills of Alabama, which made him and his opportunity. A few pats on the shoulder from a New Dealer and the things he once knew and knew well and thought about almost as a religion, became hated things. He takes up the ideas of his new "friends." And he is honored.

I hope Justice Black (or Hugo as I have always called him) has burned that life membership card in the Ku Klux Klan, they once said he carried. His old buddies wouldn't want him to be carrying it around with him anymore even though it did get him elected to the United States Senate.

Lillian Smith

## Sees Spreading Race Tensions

Pittsburgh Courier

NEW YORK—(ANP)—America was warned that racial tensions are spreading throughout the nation and that there exists an anti-Negro class covenant between poor and rich whites in Dixie.

Speaking at a luncheon here attended by local sponsors of a Southern conference for Human Welfare dinner to be given in honor of Mrs.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Miss Lillian Smith, author of "Strange Fruit," warned that the North is now seething with the same tensions which were once considered purely Southern property.

Miss Smith, who revealed she had a recent interview with the mayor of Detroit, described the class covenant between poor and rich whites. "The poor were not to infringe upon the rights of the rich," she said, "but they were to be allowed to maintain a certain amount of prestige by stepping on the Negro."

# Negroes At Dinner For Justice Black

BY HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — NNPA

— Supreme Court Justice Hugo L. Black must have gained a keen satisfaction as he looked around the banquet room at the Hotel Statler on Tuesday of last week during the dinner given in his honor by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

The liberal, progressive jurist was being honored for the second time by the Southern Conference a recipient of the Thomas Jefferson award—given to Southerners whose work in public affairs is most in the Jeffersonian tradition. He received the award first for his distinguished service in the United States Senate. This time it was for his notable service of seven and one-half years on the Supreme Court Bench.

## LARGE NUMBER PRESENT

But what must have struck the Justice was the large number of Negroes in the audience, seated at various banquet tables paying him honor. His memory must have called up the intense opposition expressed to his appointment as Supreme Court Justice by members of that same race in fear that his presence on the bench of the highest court in the land might mean loss of many of their constitutional rights. He had once been a member of the Ku Klux Klan. On the contrary, he has proved their most stalwart champion.

Speakers at the banquet were Hon. Alben Barkley, majority leader of the United States Senate, who served as toastmaster; Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt; Dr. Frank P. Graham, on leave from the presidency of the University of North Carolina to serve as a public member of the War Labor Board; Charles H. Houston, Negro attorney in Washington and member of the President's Committee on Fair employment Practice; Sen. Claude

Pepper of Florida; Judge Sherman Minton, and Hon. Fred Vinson of Kentucky, recently appointed head of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. Mr. Vinson made the principal address.

Presentation of the Jefferson award was made by Dr. Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference on Human Welfare. Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and Roosevelt both have been previous winners of the award.

low Him—to rise up with Him?

Hugo's DRY

Washington Post  
Few at the dinner knew it, but Senator Theodore Bilbo sent a stenographer to the dinner given the other night honoring Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black. The dinner was a testimonial to Black by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare which accorded the hard-hitting jurist its annual Jefferson award. Speakers included War Mobilizer Fred Vinson, Senator Alben Barkley, Mrs. Roosevelt, and North Carolina University President Frank Graham. Among the guests were a majority of the Supreme Court and several members of the cabinet.

However, what burned Bilbo was that several Negroes were present paying tribute to Black. Learning of this, Bilbo ordered a public stenographer to attend and take down the speeches, which the Mississippi Senator could then use.

But the scared stenographer was caught soon after entering the dining room, admitted he had been hired by "the man," and left suddenly.



# People and Things

## Survey Midmonthly

Last month, at a dinner in New York in honor of Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the Southern Conference for Human Welfare launched a campaign for funds to expand its program for social improvement in the South. In addition to Mrs. Roosevelt, speakers were Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina; Homer P. Rainey, former president of the University of Texas; Roscoe Dunjee, editor of the Oklahoma City *Black Dispatch*; and Dr. Clark H. Foreman, the organization's president. Dorothy Parker, well-known author, presided.

A common theme ran through all the addresses—that because the welfare of the country as a whole depends upon the welfare of each section, North and South must join together to spread democratic freedoms and improve economic conditions in the South. Mrs. Roosevelt particularly stressed the necessity for equalizing opportunities for education throughout the country, for, "only that way can we lead the country into an organization that will work for peace and security, and the world into the kind of place where everyone will have a chance for a decent life."

Dr. Rainey also emphasized the importance of education, blaming the South's present predicament as "the nation's No. 1 problem" on an inferiority complex which, he said, has kept it from facing responsibility with thought and intelligence. All the speakers, however, bore witness to the growth of a new progressivism in the South, which is including Negro and white in its hopes for the future.

During the evening, announcement was made of some \$30,000 in new donations to the conference. The money, along with whatever future contributions may be obtained, will be used to carry on the organization's work from its offices in Nashville, Tenn., and Atlanta, Ga., and to open up offices in at least two other states—South Carolina and Texas. Since its formation, following the National Emergency Council's report on the South in 1938, the conference has promoted educational campaigns for the abolition of the poll tax, the elimination of freight rate differentials, and other discriminations against southern industry, the protection of the rights of labor and of racial and re-

ligious minorities; extension of federal aid to farmers and to education; and other measures to help development of the South.

## Justice Hugo Black Proves Fears Of Policy Groundless.

By HARRY MALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Supreme Court Justice Hugo L. Black must have gained a keen satisfaction as he looked around the banquet room at the Hotel Statler last Tuesday during the dinner being given in his honor by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, as a large number of Negroes were present at various tables to pay him tribute.

His memory must have called up the intense opposition of members of that same race to his appointment seven years ago for he was formerly a member of the Ku Klux Klan. On the contrary to their fears however, he has proved a most stalwart champion of Constitutional rights.

Speakers at the banquet were: Alben Barkley, majority leader in the Senate, toastmaster; Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dr. Frank P. Graham, on leave from the presidency of the University of North Carolina serving as a public member of the War Labor Board; Charles H. Houston, attorney and member of the President's Committee for Fair Employment Practices; Sen. Claude Pepper of Florida; Judge Sherman Minton and Fred Vinson of Kentucky, who delivered the principal address.

The Supreme Court Judge received the Jefferson award from Dr. Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference, as the Southerner whose work in public affairs was most in the Jeffersonian tradition. Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune and Mrs. Roosevelt were previous winners of the award.

## South Essentially Liberal Believes Clark Foreman

By RAMONA LOWE  
(Defender New York Bureau)

NEW YORK.—Dr. Clark Foreman, easy-mannered, Georgia-accented president of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, threw one leg over the arm of his chair and explained contemporary Southern thinking.

"The real Southern point of view—that is of the majority—is liberal in its essential interest," he said, "but it has been obscured and confused over the last 50 years by the race issue. Race prejudice has been made a false issue."

"It is the job of every Southerner to understand how detrimental to his own interest is this prejudice business. Each new group coming from college has less of the old feeling of prejudice. The incident at Williams and Mary college is a good example. Young people today feel there is no reason to take on the prejudices of the older generation."

"Of course, there are certain people who profit by making race prejudice obscure liberalism. They are the reactionaries who are afraid to come out in their own question."

The Southern Conference has set up temporary headquarters in New York and Dr. Foreman will be here until June enlisting support from the North. "We have to offset the support the reactionaries of the South are getting from the reactionaries of the North. Groups like the Ku Klux Klan and the Christian American Front are financed by the North and agents of the North in the South. The North has most of the money and it uses the South as an ex-cause for extending discrimination. The sooner we can get rid of discrimination in the South, the sooner we can get rid of it in the rest of the country."

"The opportunity today for a progressive victory is greater than it has ever been. This is due partly to the organization of labor and the inclusion of Negroes in the labor movement; increasing education and the abolition of the poll tax in Alabama and Georgia and the present rise in the standard of living."

"Every state in the South has had over a 50 per cent increase in the standard of living."

## Southern Liberals Praise Truman's Stand on FEPC

NASHVILLE—(ANP)—a liberal's voice from the south in support of the FEPC was raised as the Southern Conference for Human Welfare released a letter to President Truman in praise of his message urging congress to continue the appropriation for that agency.

"We want you to know," the letter stated, "that there are thousands upon thousands of southerners who stand four-square behind you in support of the FEPC. It is regrettable that so many southern congressmen and senators fail to represent the genuine democratic sentiment of their constituencies in this matter of assuring the protection of our democratic institutions to all citizens. However, we must remember that the poll tax and other restrictions upon the ballot in all southern states make a majority vote difficult if not impossible to achieve."

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare also expressed gratification for the President's efforts for permanent peace, especially his strong support of the reciprocal trade agreements and Bretton Woods. The letter termed the temporary rupture of the harmonious relationship of the Big Three as a "threat to future world peace" but expressed confidence that Mr. Truman would be successful in restoring mutual confidence and good will between the United States and our allies.

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare, with offices in Nashville, Atlanta, Birmingham and Washington, is an organization of southern liberals and publishes the monthly "Southern Patriot."



# Justice Black, Jefferson Award Winner, Justice Hugo L. Black Honored Lauded for Role in Civil Rights Struggle at Interracial Banquet by Human Welfare Group

Dr. Charles H. Houston Extols Former Alabama Senator, Given Award  
Second Time, for Practical Belief in Democracy; First Lady Heard

Baltimore, Md.  
By MABLE ALSTON

## WASHINGTON

"Justice Hugo Black has grown to be a great stabilizing force in the colored race's struggle for equal rights," said Dr. Charles H. Houston, on March 27 at the Statler Hotel, where the Jefferson Award was presented to the Supreme Court Justice.

The presentation of the award, given for work in public affairs by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, was the second to Mr. Black, who had been similarly honored when a senator.

Mr. Houston, an attorney and FEPC member, continued, "I do not attempt to speak for the 14,000,000 people of my race; we have suffered from too many self-appointed spokesmen. I speak solely from personal experience and personal observation.

## Mounting Respect Explained

"Justice Black did not attain this position with me by any one thing he has done or said. My admiration and respect have evolved gradually as he has shown in one test after another an abiding sense of fairness and respect for individual rights.

"I did not always hold this opinion of Justice Black. When he first came to the city, as far as I was concerned, he was just another Senator from Alabama.

"My first personal contact with him came during the fight for a Federal law providing grants to the States in aid of public education. He was one of the sponsors of the bill."

## Wanted Education for All

Mr. Houston then told how he and Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, had gone in to see the senator, adding, "He said several things during the conference which put me on his side.

"He said education was the hope of the South, both for white and colored; that he was conscious of the discrimination against our education, and that the poor whites in the hill counties were also the victims of this discrimination."

Finally, Mr. Houston added the senator then declared that he favored controls which would insure a fair apportionment and use of the Federal money appropriated.

## Belief in Democracy Cited

"The greatest compliment I can

pay Justice Black is to say that he is a Southerner who is sufficiently sure of himself, who has sufficient faith in the South and Southern people, who believes in democracy so deeply that he is willing to give the future its chance."

Fred M. Vinson, new director of war mobilization, said, "If courage and adherence to principle have been the woof of Justice Black's career, a fierce and undeviating devotion to the common man has been its very warp.

## A Concrete Problem

"To him, the common man is no mere abstraction — no mere creation of a philosopher's imagination.

"The daily struggle of the common man — the needs of humble men and women — the aspirations of simple folks are all a part and parcel of his own experience.

## First Lady Pays Tribute

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, another guest speaker, declared, "We are

all, I am sure, deeply conscious of the service that Justice Black has rendered to liberal causes, and we are happy that Justice Black has received this award.

In his remarks following the presentation, Justice Black said: "I am deeply moved by your kind expressions. I cannot, however, accept your award as a personal offering. It implies rather a recognition that we share common hopes and ideals, all of which rest on a belief in the essential dignity of man.

## Warning of the Future

"When victory of the battlefield comes, there yet will remain much to do. The laying down of arms could again be but an armistice between this and a bloodier, more destructive war to snuff out the lives of the next generation.

"Should this occur, democracy will have achieved a hollow victory. For peace, not war, is the ultimate goal towards which democracy moves."

Others speakers at the dinner were:

Senator Claude Pepper, (Dem. Fla.), Dr. Frank P. Graham of the National War Labor Board; Judge Sherman Minton of Indiana, of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; and Dr. Clark Foreman, president of the Southern Conference.



Mrs. Nell Hunter of the Treasury Department, and Senator Theodore F. Green of Rhode Island, thoroughly at ease among the indiscriminately seated guests of both races, who saw Dr. Clark Foreman, conference president, present the Thomas Jefferson Award to Justice Black.



Lt. Robert Ming of the Judge Advocate General's office, and Jack P. Blume, executive secretary of the D.C. Lawyers' Guild, who were among the 800-odd guests at the banquet, held April 3, at the Statler Hotel.



In this group of guests are, left to right, Henry Jamison and Miss Edna Gaser of NYC; J. G. Frain, South Carolina; Miss Helen Vanderhoop, Miss Margery Taylor, Massachusetts; Miss Ingrid Pearson, Miss Natalie Moor- man, Mesdames R. W. Spears, Ruth B. Hawes and Samuel Gellman, all of Richmond. Justice Black was honored for outstanding work in the interest of minority groups.

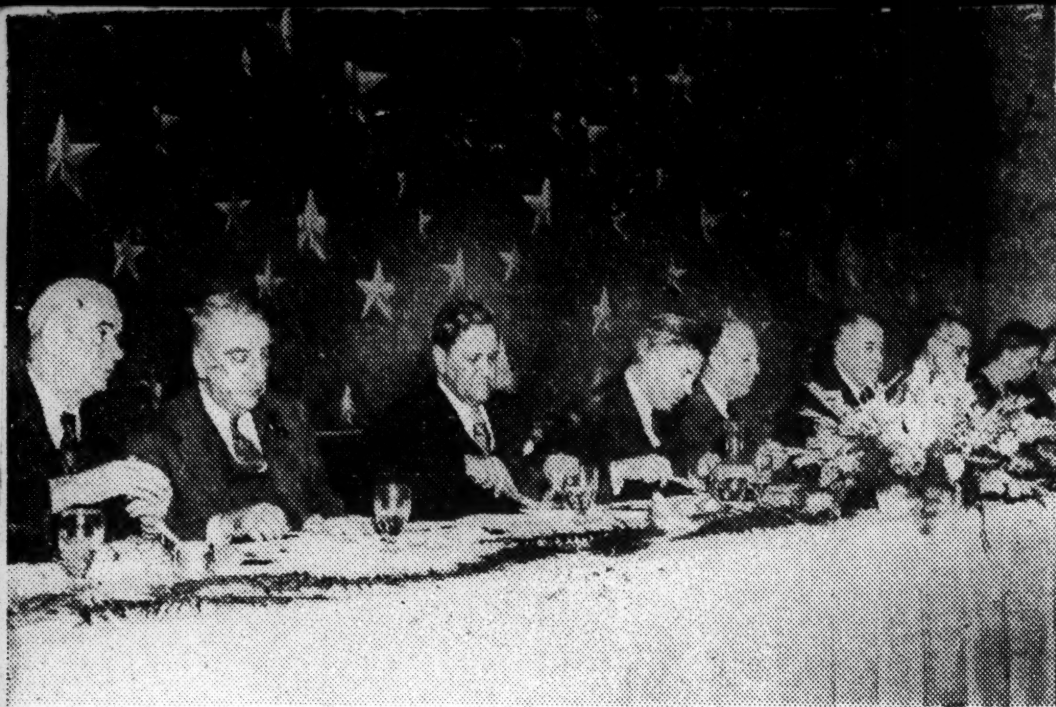
## THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE The Un- Cincinnati, Ohio Opposes Bilbo, Eastland and Rankins!

New York—Southern editors are overwhelmingly opposed to the recent expressions of racial prejudice in Congress and feel such statements do not represent the true feeling of the south, the Southern Conference for Human Welfare disclosed today in revealing the results of a poll of 251 white newspaper editors in the thirteen southern states.

In releasing the results of the survey, Dr. Clark Foreman, President of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, at its New York headquarters opined that the poll would be one of the most forceful arguments when proponents of a permanent

Fair Employment Practices Committee and anti-poll tax legislation press for Congressional action after Congress reconvenes.





Speakers' table at testimonial dinner for Associate Justice Hugo L. Black, given by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Shown, left to right, are Philip Murray, president of the CIO; Fred M. Vinson, new director of war mobilization; Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce; Justice Black, Senator Alben Barkley (Dem., Ky.), Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Justice Frank Murphy.

## Southern Human Welfare Conference to Take Action on Job Bias

*N.Y. - New York, New York*  
The Southern Conference on Human Welfare meets this Sunday at the Hotel Commodore to initiate some positive action on eliminating job discrimination. *9-23-45*

The Conference theme will be the responsibility of the Federal Government for guaranteeing fair employment practices.

The New York Committee of the Southern Conference, 112 Park Ave., is basing its sessions on President Truman's Congressional message in which he repeated his recommendation for a permanent FEPC. *2125*

The panel discussions during the day and the dinner will present speakers of different viewpoints. The committee expects that "out of this give-and-take process a clearer understanding on the part of the public on the problems and the role of the Federal Government in this issue will develop."

The big question is what will the Democratic and Republican parties do to support forthcoming legislation on guaranteeing equality of opportunity to all Americans. *9-23-45*

Spokesmen for both parties will be at the Commodore, Lexington Ave. and 42d St., to answer that question.

### LIBERALS ORGANIZE IN N. C.

*Black Disparities*  
*Oklahoma City*  
RALEIGH, N. C. — One hundred fifty citizens representing both races gathered here Saturday November 10 to organize a state unit for the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. James Drombrowsky, Nashville, Tenn., and secretary of the Parent Organization was present and delivered the address. *Oklahoma*



80c-1945

Thomas Jefferson Award- Southern Conference for Human Welfare

**We Salute Justice Hugo Black**

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare is honoring Supreme Court Justice Hugo L. Black with a dinner at the Nation's capital this week. The occasion will be the presentation of the coveted Thomas Jefferson Award to this great southern progressive. We profess a genuine admiration for the progressivism of Florida's Senator Claude Pepper, who has been a consistent enemy to reaction and demagoguery and whose liberalism has captivated the admiration of the American people. Similarly, we regard Alabama's Senator Lister M. Hill a man of equal statesmanship stature and genius. And in Georgia we commend the expanding liberalism of Governor Ellis Arnall. But no one in the South more richly deserves the recognition being paid by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare than Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black. His broad human sympathies and his righteous espousal of the cause of the common man qualify him as one of the leading figures on the present federal bench. 4-6-45

It is a source of gratitude to note also that the distinguished lawyer, Charles Houston will be one of the speakers on this occasion. Readers of this paper need not be reminded of the joy it will bring to the heart of Justice Black to know that his work for the cause of minority groups in this Nation is appreciated and that words of congratulations can be counted upon from our group.

We commend the Conference for Human Welfare upon the wisdom of its choice. We salute Justice Black upon his sincerity of purpose and nobility of spirit.

**Racism Here and****Abroad Analyzed**

NEW YORK.—The base of race prejudice in the South and in Latin-America were outlined Saturday by Dr. Rayford W. Logan and Dr. Clark Forman, in the first double feature of the lecture series: "A World View of the Negro Question" at the 136th Street branch of the public library. 3-10-45

Exploding the misconception that Latin-American countries are lands of paradise without race prejudices, Dr. Logan said that one drop of white blood does not make a Latin of color white, and that there is a definite connection between race and class.

He pointed out that "you can go wherever you are able to pay the bill, though you may be made to feel uncomfortable." Dr. Logan suggested basic economic and political changes to correct these evils.

Warns of Fascism—Dr. Forman, president, Southern Conference on Human Welfare, speaking on the Southern Progressive Movement, said some were prepared to go part of the way toward complete equality, including the group he represented.

Emphasizing the danger of Fascist movements to the whole nation, now trying to get started in the South, Dr. Forman said that the place to kill the Fascist threat is at the source, and urged North-erners to help progressive South-erners fight for full democracy.